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Taking it for Granted.

With marks of a rough, stormy life all over him, a man of about fifty years, gray and sunburnt, sat in my office. I found him there when I went in not long ago.

"Here is somebody waiting for you, Elwell," said Bigelow.

I looked around, and the man rose and held out his hand.

"Averill—my name is Averill," said he, looking sharply at me out of a pair of shrewd gray eyes. "I am an old friend of your mother; but I have not met her for a matter of five-and-twenty years. So I thought I'd call and ask after her and her family."

"I am glad to see you," said I. "Are you a relative of my mother?"

"No," replied Mr. Averill. "We were of the same name, but not connected—unless it may be very distantly. I used to know her and her folks, though, as well as I did my own sisters, and better, too. Let's see—where is your Aunt Augusta now?"

"She is living with her children in Portland," said I.

"Pretty well, is she, do you know?" asked Mr. Averill.

"Very well when we heard last. Aunt Augusta has good children and a pleasant home, and seems quite happy."

"Um-m-m-m! That is nice," said Mr. Averill, fumbling at a rough nugget of gold that hung as a charm from his watch-chain.

I hadn't much to do that day, so I talked off and on with my visitor till it was time to go home, and then took him along with me. I left him in the sitting room and went to find mother. She was mixing biscuits for supper, looking through her glasses, and singing a snatch of some old, half-forgotten love ditty of her youth.

"Mother!" said I, breaking in upon her song. "Come in the other room. An old friend of yours wants to see you."

Mother looked up over her glasses.

"An old friend? 'Tisn't any of the Maine folks, is it?" she asked.

Because, if it was so much as a dog that had trotted across the corner of the State of Maine, on his four legs, mother would have run, with her arms out and a smile of welcome, without stopping to even wash the dough off her hands. As it was, with only an indefinite thought of seeing "an old friend," she went, with a dust of flour on her nose, and without her company cap.

As soon as she had stepped inside the sitting room door, she stood and looked at her guest, and he stood and looked at her.

"It is Sam, as true as you are born!" she said, at last.

Then they both laughed, and then they both wiped their eyes, though they didn't seem like that sort of people, especially Mr. Averill.

I never knew mother to forget her housekeeping before, but this time she let the biscuit burn till they were black as my shoe; and when she mixed some more she put in sugar instead of salt, and left out saleratus altogether. But her cheeks grew pink, and her cap strings flew, and she nor her guest seemed to know the difference.

"Oh, honey!" cried my mother, hopping up from the tea-table as soon as she was seated. "You haven't lost your sweet tooth, have you, Sam?"

"How you do remember!" returned Sam, admiringly.

"I should think I ought to," answered my mother, with a girlish laugh. "The way you used to pick up walnuts to carry to the cross-roads store and trade for molasses to make candy of! Speaking of the cross-roads store, I wonder if you know our old storekeeper's daughter, she that was Sarah Curly, has lost her husband?"

"No, has she? Strange I never heard of it," replied Mr. Averill, appearing as astonished as though he had been hearing from his old neighbors every week.

"Yes," said my mother. "She married one of old Si Seaver's boys, the oldest one, Jonathan, and he died sudden—all at once; well, it must be something like half-a-dozen years ago—and left his wife and so many children—five children, or else six, I don't know which."

"You don't say!" ejaculated Mr. Averill, passing his honey plate for the third time. No, evidently he had not lost his sweet tooth.

After supper, mother washed up the dishes and talked, and Mr. Averill smoked his pipe and listened. It was the first time I ever allowed anybody to smoke in my house, but I had nothing to say now. I even filled his pipe and lighted it for him. And then he told the story of his life, which had been full of strange and interesting adventures. He was evidently a man who did not read much and who could not have written well, but he could talk; not always grammatically, perhaps, but always with force and fascination.

It seemed that years and years ago, his father and my mother's father lived in a town in the valley of the Kennebec. My mother's father was a large farmer and Mr. Averill's father was a very small farmer with a very large family. So the youngest son, Sam, came to work for my grandfather. My mother and my aunt Augusta were young girls—they were twins, and I suppose by the way, they look now as they must have been pretty then. My mother was early engaged and married to my father; but there was Augusta, and there was Sam; and where one was you might usually find the other near at hand. Sam never said anything, he was not of a demonstrative kind, but he knew how he felt, and he supposed Augusta knew too.

So the years budded and blossomed and brought forth fruit, until at last Sam went down to Connecticut to take charge of a saw-mill for an uncle of his. He wrote to Aunt Augusta and Aunt Augusta wrote to him; and now and then he came to Maine on business, always going to my grandfather's before he went home, and carrying himself to Augusta like an accepted lover.

After a few years he found himself possessed of twelve thousand dollars, and immediately went to work to spend it. He went abroad, to England and Rome and Egypt and Paris and Germany and Sweden and Russia and everywhere. When he came home at last it was only with fifty dollars in his pocket. So next he went out among the copper mines of Lake Superior, and in time was again possessed of twelve thousand dollars.

"Now I will come home and marry Augusta, and settle down," said he to himself. But he didn't say it to anybody else. It never occurred to himself that it was necessary.

Meantime my Aunt Augusta had not stood like a rose in a pot, waiting for the gardener to come and pick it. She cast out her roots and threw up her branches and bloomed as though it was enough to fulfil the laws of being and beauty for their own sakes.

In that simple neighborhood work was supposed to be the chief end of everybody. So Aunt Augusta learned vest-making, and then she went to Coos, where her brother Nathan lived and set up for herself.

Coos was a little crum of a town in those days; but it held up its head and had its stores and its mills, and its shops, and its great white meeting-house on a hill, with galleries on three sides and square pews and high box pulpit.

The first Sunday after Aunt Augusta went there, she climbed the hill, of course, and went in the front pew with Uncle Nathan and his wife. She was fashionably dressed in a black gown, a scarlet shawl and a white silk bonnet with pink roses inside. Her cheeks were as pink as her roses, and her eyes were as black as her gown.

There was no need that Mr. Keeler should point her out to the young men, but he took the pains to do it. Mr. Keeler, the minister, was a little lank man, as plain and gray as a dor-bug, and so afraid of the pomps and vanities that he wouldn't wear buttons on his coat. No sooner had his eyes fallen on Aunt Augusta, settling herself in the front pew like a variegated tulip, than he dropped the subject he had started upon for his sermon, and began to preach against conformity to the world. He was a sincere, earnest man, and he preached with all his might, emphasizing and illustrating his words by pointing with his blunt finger at the scarlet shawl and pink roses. So if anybody had neglected to look at them before they looked then.

Among those who were obedient to the ministerial forefinger was Abner Stanton, the village blacksmith.

Abner Stanton's heart was a good deal like his iron—not easily melted—but when it once had been hammered into a shape, there it was, fixed and steadfast. And so day Aunt Augusta's eyes went through it like red-hot arrows as he peered around at her from behind one of the pillars in the gallery.

The next day he came to get a vest made. The day after, he came to bring the buttons for it; and the day after that he thought, as he was going by, he would call and see if she had everything she needed, and how soon the vest would be done. It was not two days more before he was there again to bring a letter.

"I happened to see it at the post-office when I went after my paper, and so I brought it along. I could as well as not," said he.

The letter was from Sam Averill, telling about the luck he had had in mining, the weather, and the fact that he was well. Nothing more; nothing about the home he was building in his fancy, and the figure that was always central in his thoughts.

"I hope," said my uncle Nathan, "you are not foolish enough to set your mind on such a rolling stone as Sam Averill. He has no continuity to him."

"If we are going to hunt for a man that has no faults in this world, we'll have a long road of it," returned Aunt Augusta, bearing down the heavy pressing iron upon her seam, as though she were trying to crush the life out of something.

In less than a week Abner Stanton called again. He thought perhaps Miss Augusta didn't know the swamp-pinks were out, and so he brought her a handful, that he got on the way over from Cowesett.

Aunt Augusta had a weakness for flowers—she and my mother are alike about that—and she put a cluster of blossoms in her hair at once, and another at her throat, while Abner Stanton looked at her with admiration in every hair of his head.

"If you were a sister of mine, you should always sit in a rocking chair and wear swamp-pinks!" said he.

"Abner Stanton is a most excellent man," quoth Uncle Nathan, when he had gone his way, "an esquire and a head man in town. He's all wheat, and no chaff. He'll make a first rate husband, and the girl who gets him will get a prize."

Aunt Augusta made some fierce clippings with her great tailor's shears, but she said nothing, and presently went up stairs to answer Sam Averill's letter.

The next day Abner Stanton called to see Uncle Nathan on business, and she sent her letter to the office by him. So the months drifted along one after another, like pictures in a magic-lantern. Abner Stanton came often on one excuse or another, or on none. He brought flowers and berries strung on grass, and sweet flag-root and birds' eggs. He was never intrusive with his love, but he made Aunt Augusta conscious of it every step she walked and with every breath she breathed. It was below her, above her, and all around her. He often brought her letters from Sam and carried hers for him to the office.

"All things are fair in love," said he to himself. So now and then he forgot to mail, or to deliver one, dropping it in the fire instead. At last, as his love grew hotter and more impatient, he kept them back altogether, and still never allowed Aunt Augusta to lose sight of thought of himself.

Thus the time passed, until Sam Averill having made and lost and made again his twelve thousand dollars among the copper mines, came home to "marry Augusta and settle down."

Suddenly one day he appeared before my uncle Nathan, travel-worn, brown and shaggy. My uncle received him with great cordiality.

"Sam, I'm glad to see you!" said he. "How have you fared all this great long time?"

"Fair to middling. Where's Augusta?" returned Sam.

"Oh, Augusta! She is all right. You go to the tavern and fix up, and I'll find Augusta. I will be around in an hour or so and call for you. Augusta will be proper glad to see you, and so'll the rest of the folks. I don't know when there has been such a surprise in Coos before."

So Sam went off with his honest heart to find a razor and a wash bowl, and my uncle Nathan did a very mean thing. He went straight to Abner Stanton. "Abner," said he, going into the smithy, out of breath, "Sam Averill has come, and you must go right up and get Augusta to name the day, or you will lose her. I'll keep him out of the way as long as I can."

Abner dropped his hammer, without saying a word, and went up the street, rolling down his shirt-sleeves as he went. An hour after Uncle Nathan came home with Sam Averill.

"Here is an old friend you will be glad to see, Augusta," said he, opening the door of my aunt's workroom, where she sat stitching the pocket of a primrose colored vest, and looking fresh as a hundred primroses herself.

"It is sam!" said she faintly, starting to her feet and dropping her work.

It was Sam. Sam came at last, with his long-smouldering love and his tardy speaking.

"You are too late! An hour too late," said my aunt Augusta, when he had told his errand East. "I have just engaged myself to another man."

"You hav'n't done right, Augusta," said Sam. "You belong to me; you have always belonged to me, and you ought to have waited till I came."

"You didn't say anything," returned my aunt, with a little pride. "How was I to know what you meant? You never spoke a word."

"I took it you knew my mind," returned Sam. "I never thought of any body else. I never should think of any body else, and it didn't occur to me that you would. You must marry this person now you have promised him, of course. But it isn't right and never will be right."

"Mr. Stanton is a worthy man; just as good as gold, clear through to the core. I have always liked him, and you never said anything," repeated my poor aunt Augusta; "I will be your friend, though, just the same."

They said no more, there was nothing more to be said, and in a month Aunt Augusta and Abner Stanton were married. Sam Averill stayed till after the wedding, and then he went off, and had never been heard of again until to-day by Aunt Augusta's family.

He went to California, throwing his whole life into work; his work prospered, and he had come back now with houses and lands, and gold and mines—a rich man. He had come back to find Aunt Augusta, and learn how the world had fared with her. For in all these years of buying and selling, and getting gain, he had kept the empty room in his heart that had once been filled by his love.

Aunt Augusta's married life had not been happy. It is very dangerous for a man to take in a mean habit temporarily, for it will stick to him, and Abner Stanton's character never recovered from the twist those intercepted letters gave it. I don't know what, but something was always going wrong between them. Even their children proved barriers instead of bonds. As he grew older his natural economy and thrift became stronger and stronger, until, as my mother said, "he got so clost he could sit, and seven more like him, on a three cent piece." Finally, one day, under some provocation, he told Aunt Augusta about the lost letters. "You oughtn't to have told me that, Abner," said she. "You ought not to have told me. I can never forgive you."

She never did. Always after, there seemed to be something separating them, cold and hard and transparent as ice, until at last they agreed to live apart. And so they did until the death of Mr. Stanton. And now Aunt Augusta was living, surrounded by her children and grandchildren, happy and comfortable.

Mother brought down thus the story of Aunt Augusta's life, while Mr. Averill listened, eager and excited. When she had finished he knocked the ashes from his pipe, and starting up began to walk the floor.

"I will start for Portland to-morrow morning and see what Augusta will have to say to me. I am of the same mind I always was. I've never hankered for a moment after any other woman, and I am as ready to marry her to-day as I ever was."

So the next day I saw him on the Portland train, gray with years, but youthful with expectation.

This time he did not waste his opportunity by waiting to make himself fine, but with the grime and dust of travel yet upon him, he went directly to the house of Aunt Augusta's daughter, with whom she was living.

"Where is Mrs. Stanton? I want to see her right away," said he, as soon as the door was opened.

"You will find her here; walk in, if you please," replied the housemaid, throwing open the door of the sitting-room.

Mr. Averill stepped quickly forward. Yes, there she sat, stitching away as before on some kind of primrose-colored stuff, with her eyes as black and bright as ever. But the primroses were faded in her cheeks, and she wore a cap on her head.

"I have come for you again, Augusta. Am I too late this time?" cried the impatient lover.

The roses came back to Aunt Augusta's cheeks, and the red hot arrows shot out of her eyes once more.

"Bless us! If it isn't Sam Averill, nose and all!" she said, holding up her hands.

From twenty to fifty is but as a watch in the night, then the years are past, and it is only when an old lady nods triumphantly at you from the looking-glass, saying, "Here I am, my dear!" or when children that you have nursed in your arms come around with the rights and duties of full-grown men and women, that you remember one is no longer young at fifty. But the sight of Sam Averill's gray hairs and wrinkles were as good as a looking glass to remind Aunt Augusta.

"Sit down, Sam," said she, "and let me look at you. It seems like the real old times to see you once more. You look wonderful natural, but dear me, how you have changed! You have grown old as well as myself."

But Mr. Averill was not to be diverted by any side issues.

"Augusta," said he, earnestly, "I made a serious mistake once. It was not a mistake about my own mind, however; that remains the same as it always was. Every woman that I've ever seen seemed like a tallow candle beside the sun when I think of you. I have made my fortune, and all I want now is you to come and share it with me. It is you, or nobody, just as it always was."

Maybe Aunt Augusta's heart throbbed a little with the old yearning toward the love of her youth, but she shook her head with unhesitating decision, as she put out her hand to stir the cradle where her youngest grandchild lay asleep.

"It can never be, Sam," said she. "I won't deny that it was all a mistake my marrying Stanton. He didn't turn out to be the man I took him for. He proved contrary and ornery, and besides he wrote letters in disguise. But that is all over and past, and can't be undone. And now I am in the midst of my children with my grandchildren growing up about me, and I am in my right place. I shouldn't be contented to leave everything and go off to a new country to begin the world over again as it were. I am too old an oak to be transplanted.

Well, after that Mr. Averill might have talked till he was at the age of Methuselah. Aunt Augusta had made up her mind, and an earthquake could not shake it.

So Mr. Averill again went away alone.

"Well, Amelia, Augusta wouldn't have a word to say to me," said he, walking in upon mother and me as we sat at supper a few evenings after, "not a word."

"I want to know if that is so!" cried mother, fluttering up after a plate and knife. "Lay your overcoat right off, and sit by and have a cup of tea with us. Augusta always was decided, and you couldn't turn her after she got her mind fixed. She wouldn't keep you waiting long for your answer, either. Well, it is likely it is for the best; we will hope so," pursued mother, reaching over to put an extra lump of sugar in Mr. Averill's cup, as though to sweeten life if possible for him.

"It serves me right in taking it for granted that Augusta understood my intentions. I must have been a self-conceited, inconsiderate fool. But it seems hard that a body can't work his way out of a blunder in a whole lifetime."

Mother looked full of sympathy, and dropped another lump of sugar in Mr. Averill's cup. To my astonishment he seemed to relish it the better, as if life were growing sweeter and sweeter.

Mother and Mr. Averill sat up late that night, so late that as I had had a hard day, I went off and left them talking over old times, and purring like a couple of cats by the kitchen fire.

After breakfast the next morning, mother followed me into the hall, when I started for the office.

"I want to speak with you Elwell, just a minute," said she, stroking my coat-sleeve, tremulously. "What should you say to my going back to California with Mr. Averill?"

"You, mother!" I cried, feeling as though the world had tumbled off its axis. "Why, it is Aunt Augusta he wants. It is Augusta or nobody!"

"Yes, so it was," returned mother, humbly, "but Sam says I seem more like Augusta, as she used to be, than she does herself. To tell you the truth, Elwell," continued mother, humbler still, "I suppose it wouldn't have taken much to turn me toward Sam in my young days; I always thought the world and all of him; but he seemed rather more to Augusta. She was always nineteen to the dozen, and I never could hold my own against her. And then your father, he came along, and I never was sorry it happened as it did, but now you don't need me, and Sam and I have about concluded to make arrangements, only I told him I must get a talk with you first and get your advice."

Get my advice! Dear little mother! I was not idiotic enough to offer it if I had any advise to give. So she and Mr. Averill went on and "made arrangements."

When arrangements were made that day two weeks, after a quiet wedding at the minister's, they started off for California together, to begin life anew on each other's account, as blithe and joyous as two birds on the wing.—*The Atlantic.*

The Cardiff Giant Outdone.

From the New York Tribune.

So many elaborate hoaxes, originating in this country, have imposed upon men of science at home and abroad, that America has gained in some quarters an unenviable reputation. It would be tedious to enumerate these impositions—from Locke's Moon Hoax down to the Cardiff Giant—for scarcely a week passes that a new one is not started, getting more or less of a newspaper run according to its ingenuity. The latest of these we have seen, is an absurd story that Donati, the Italian astronomer, had his death hastened by fright at the discovery that the earth was approaching the sun with unsuspected rapidity, so that we shall all be burnt within ten years, or thereabout. Prof. Agassiz, speaking about this class of hoaxes, while expressing indignation at their authors, made the remark that "after all, if a scientific student is humbugged by them, he must be himself to blame."

But whatever may be the bad eminence of America in these inventions, it is now utterly distanced and eclipsed by an Oriental performance. Our artificer contented himself with the manufacture of one gypsum statue; the ingenious Selim el Gari of Jerusalem has fabricated a whole museum of antiquities—idols, vessels and pottery—inscribed with writings and Phenician characters, and crusted, apparently, with the evidence of age. The first collection was sold to the German government, the Museum of Berlin being regarded as fortunate in securing the prize for $5,000. The productive powers of the Jerusalem factory seem to have been stimulated by the German gold, and what was known as the Shapira Collection was gradually brought together. The collector from whom it was named, M. Shapira, appears rather as the dupe than the accomplice of the imposture. On these curiosities the inscriptions count by the hundreds, the characters being similar to those of the famous Moabite stone. As for the vases and figures of animals, and rudely executed statuettes of men and women, and fragments, and disks that might be coins or might be tesseræ, there is no end of them. In fact, the the prodigality of the supply from the faithful Selim had something to do with suspicions that gradually began to cloud his fortunes. The second collection became the subject of more searching investigation than the first.

The secret was well kept, however, while from time to time during two years past, a Christianized Jew furnished these varied treasures which he professed to obtain from an Arab. The process known among mining prospectors as "salting" was successfully attempted, and two German travelers were duly escorted to a spot in the land of Moab, where they dug for themselves some fragments of pottery. Profound warning was brought to bear on the products of Selim's art. Under spectacles and microscope the relations of the figures and devices to astronomy and nature-worship were developed, and in abstruse monographs the appropriateness was set forth of supposed representations of the deities of Phœnicia. One great obstacle was constantly encountered; the inscriptions in all cases proved undecipherable. It was on this rock the imposture split.

The details of the discovery of the fraud read somewhat like a chapter in the Arabian tales. M. Ganneau, French Consul at Jerusalem, who has for many years made the antiquities of Palestine an object of special study, recognized in the inscriptions a certain peculiar way of making the Phenician characters—as one might recognize handwriting—as being that of a man who had copied some details for him from the Moabite stone; M. Ganneau having kept the copy. The man was a painter by profession, and had made a living by daubing bad Neobyzantine pictures for Greek pilgrims. The statues, M. Canneau thought, this painter, Selim el Gari, might have made himself; but the vases bore evidence of the potter's skill. So M. Ganneau made quiet inquiries among the potters of Jerusalem, and at last found, in the shop of Hadj Kahhil el Mahi, near the Damascus gate, one of the workmen whom Selim had employed in the manufacture. Many of the details of the business are given in the words of a young apprentice: he speaks of "statues of men, dogs, and women, with noses, hands, feet, and breasts, the whole covered with writing." He carried some of these and the vases and disks from the pottery to Selim's house. One of the statues was so hot that it burned him. These journeys were made after dark; and we can see in the boy's story that he had more than the fears natural to a follower of Islam in dealing in graven images. Finally, he saw the objects at Salim's house plumped into the caldron where a hot solution of saltpeter gave them the evidences of antiquity.

Surely we may say with Carlyle, this is the age of shams.

The Famine in Bengal.

[From the New York World.]

Thirty millions of people are in great distress for want of food, and six millions more are actually starving. This is what the latest news from India means. Thirty millions—six millions—are words easy to write, but not very easy to comprehend. Taken together, they mean almost as many people as live in the whole of these United States; they mean nine times as many as live in the State of New York; they mean more than the whole population of England, Wales, Ireland and Scotland. It is true that these thirty-six millions of men, women and children are not "white folks;" they have brown skin, black hair and dark eyes; they are for the most part "heathens," and are said to worship false gods. For all that they are human creatures, with like passions as ourselves; if you tickle them they laugh, if you prick them they bleed, and if you starve them they die.

If this awful calamity had fallen suddenly and without warning upon the English Governors of India and upon the wretched natives of that country, nothing but sympathy and pity could be felt for both rulers and ruled. But for more than four months it has been known that the famine was coming, and ample time and more than ample means were at hand to provide sufficient food for those who are now perishing. With almost inexplicable fatuity—with certainly criminal neglect—the Government, both in India and in England, refused to avail themselves of these means, and allowed this precious time of preparation to pass away unused. When every day brought the famine nearer they permitted hundreds of tons of rice to be bought up in the famine-stricken land and exported. Now, when the famine is upon them, they are in a state of panic and wild alarm; they have called meetings in Calcutta and in London; they have appealed to private charity, and the Queen, with most injudicious but well meant kindness, has headed the list with a subscription of £1,000—"a sum which therefore," says the *Spectator*, "no native millionaire will dare to exceed less he should insult his sovereign." But the misery of the situation cannot be fully understood without taking into account the fact that were there millions of money now at the disposal of the Viceroy of India, he could not save the lives of the people, for the reason that there are not sufficient means for conveying food to them. There are no railways. The only means of carriage are carts, drawn by oxen, or the employment of men to carry jars on their heads, or boxes slung upon their shoulders. Let any one who knew what it was to feed an army of 100,000 men during the late civil war, with unbounded means of supply, and ample facilities for transportation, picture to himself what it will be to feed 300 times that number of people with supplies, grudgingly dealt out, with no means of transport, but teams of oxen or droves of men, themselves half famished.

Having commenced by the blunder of not attempting to provide against the famine in time, the Government in India continue their blunder by insisting upon feeding only those who are able to work in return for the "charity" to be bestowed upon them. This would be wicked enough if the famine were threatening only the laboring classes—the people, that is, who can work digging tanks and making canals. But in the meeting at Calcutta referred to it was shown that already in this early stage of the distress the non-laboring class, finding it impossible to buy food for the reason that there is none to buy, "are crowding to the relief works," and in the attempt to perform labor to which they are unequal are perishing from fatigue as well as hunger. These are gentle, soft-handed, delicately nurtured men and women, "as incapable of hard work as an English countess;" but the Government is saying to them, "He that will not work shall not eat," and when they try to work they die.

It seems to be impossible to exaggerate the distress that already prevails, and one shrinks from the contemplation of the awful sufferings that is to follow. In one country in Bengal alone—Tirhoot, the richest district of the province—the officials expect to have a million persons on their hands for several months. In the Panta division about a million and a half will have no food but the government. It does not supply. "There are no markets, and distress prevails everywhere." "Many tracts on the northern border of Patna will be almost depopulated; already numbers of the people are feeding themselves to one daily meal." "The worst tracts of country are least accessible to carnage." Instead of having conveyed food to these people when there was yet ample time for that work—instead of even now attempting to do it—the government is telling the starving wretches that they must march hundreds of miles to places where, if they perform each day a heavy task of manual labor, they may receive at nightfall a handful of rice. This is the way in which England governs India. If this misgovernment arose from sheer wickedness one would say of such rulers:

* * * "Fit to govern!
No, not fit to live!"

But it arises only from incompetency and blundering. We shall presently hear of mammoth "famine meetings" in London and other English cities, and of millions of money being subscribed and sent to India. Meanwhile the people will perish by hundreds of thousands, and one more terrible chapter will be added to the already gloomy and bloody volume which records the history of British rule in India.

NEARLY A DUEL.

Victor Hugo Quarrels With His Publisher.

[From a Sketch in Boston Bulletin.]

Many different causes conspired to bring about a difference between author and manager. One evening, on his way to the theatre, Mr. Hugo noticed that the play bill announced a change. He had not been advised of it. Nettled at what he regarded an insult, the irascible writer made his way to Mademoiselle's room, where Harel was present, and asked what the bill meant. The latter replied that it meant that he, being manager, had a right to select the plays performed at the Theatre Porte St. Martin.

"What have you received to-day?" asked Hugo.

"Twenty-five hundred francs."

"And how much do you expect to make to-morrow by the change?"

"Five hundred more."

"You stop 'Lucrezia Borgia' for this trifling sum?"

"Yes."

"Why?"

"Because I choose to do so."

"So be it; but bear in mind that you have performed the last play you will ever get from me."

"The last but one," very coolly replied M. Harel. "You forget that you promised me your next play."

"I never made you any such promise. I said that I would neither refuse nor promise."

"I assert," said M. Harel, "that you did make me such a promise."

"And I," said M. Hugo, "say that I did not."

"Therefore you give me the lie, Monsieur, do you?"

"You may take it as you please, Monsieur," replied M. Hugo, and flung himself out of the theatre.

Upon returning home late at night, M. Hugo found the following letter:

"Monsieur—Your presistence in refusing to keep the promise which you have given me frequently and before witnesses, and your declaring that 'I may take it as I please,' I regard as a cause of offense.

"I therefore request satisfaction.

"Let me know where and when you will meet me.

"Ap. 30, Evening. HAREL."

The next day M. Hugo rose early to look out for seconds. As he turned round the boulevard, he saw coming towards him the manager.

"Monsieur Hugo," he said, "I wrote you a foolish letter. I am the offended party, but nevertheless make the apology. Will you forgive me, and let me have your piece? As a matter of course, 'Lucrezia' will be performed this evening."

The great author, as placable as he is irascible, could not bear malice, and this time promised the piece. So long as Harel continued manager of the Theatre Porte St. Martin, the great dramatist thereafter supplied him with pieces.

It is a question, not without interest, as to how much reputation, once won, has to do with future success? Would Sir Walter Scott's "Count Robert of Paris" have been productive of £18,000, had "Waverly" never gone through thirty nine editions? Would Thackeray's "Yellowplush Papers" have been republished, yielding the author more than £7,000, had "Vanity Fair" proven a failure? Or would the Christmas stories of Charles Dickens, poor platitudes as some of them are, have been eagerly and greedily devoured by the English reading world, had a "Pickwick" never caused laughter, nor a "Little Nell" drawn tears? And Victor Hugo, had "Lucrezia Borgia" never been a success, would his "Hermani," "Marie Tudor," "Angelo," "Tyran de Padua," "Ruy Blas," and "Les Burgraves" be considered to be in artistic brilliancy the first dramas of the nineteenth century? No one denies, of course, that as the great leader of the romanticists in France, against the classicists, Victor Marie Hugo is a wonderful man. He has reached the highest distinction in literature, and deserves it. But would he have achieved all this if the fascinations of Mademoiselle Georges had not made "Lucrezia Borgia" the cornet of the French stage? After all, there is nothing that succeeds so well as success.

Disraeli.

Mr. Smalley in the New York Tribune.

The greatest empire in the world—for England is still the greatest in the world, though not in Europe, paradoxical as that may sound—will in another fortnight be in the hands of a man of Jewish descent, born poor, unlitled, and for many years a political adventurer. By force of intellect and will he made his way to the top of a party which looks on intellect with suspicion and thinks land a better title than brains to command. He was distrusted, and the one thing he has never succeeded in doing was to conquer that distrust. I believe that, at this moment, the men who think themselves the real chiefs of the Tory party, and who by descent and position are such, look forward with no little apprehension to the near future and to the consequence of the victory they have won. The submit to Mr. Disraeli because they cannot resist. They will support him loyally, for disloyalty is not in their manners. And yet, deep down in their souls lurks the dread of seeing their terrible captain lead them once more to the overthrow of some cherished institution.

The Pope has sent a letter to the Massachusetts Catholic Temperance Union, encouraging members in their work.

RELIGIOUS.

Keep yourself in God's presence; avoid all hurry and disquiet; nothing is a greater hindrance in the way of perfection.

Perpetual complaints, says an old writer, are like unto a new cart, which creaks and cries even while it has no burden but its own wheels; whereas that which is long used and well oiled goes silently away with a heavy burden.

Grace is a quality different from beauty, though nearly allied to it, which is never observed without affecting us with emotions of peculiar delight and which is, perhaps, the first objects of the arts of sculpture and painting to study and present.

The majority of persons who come to church want simple, direct, gospel preaching. This is true of men of high and of low estate. They want what comes home to their business and bosoms, what addresses their hearts rather than their heads. They are heart-hungry for God's pure word.

An overworked city physician was recently requested by a widow to present his bill for long continued services in her family. "I will pay it by installments," she said, "as soon as I am more able to earn." The next day the bill was sent, including services and medicines for months, but receipted. Underneath the signature was written:—"He that giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord. I owe Him as much; permit me to lend Him this."

To take and receive all things, not in ourselves but in God, is the true and excellent way of dying to ourselves and living only to God. They who understand and practice this are beginning to live purely; but outside of this, nature is always mingled with grace, and we rest in self, instead of permitting ourselves no repose except in the Supreme God, who should be the centre of every movement of the heart, as He is the final end of all the measures of love.

Many commit sins which they would not commit did they not expect to repent of them in the future. They presume on God's love. "Is He not always ready to forgive?" No, He is not. Esau "found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears." History affords many such instances. Besides, is such presumption fitted to make one more desirous to repent in the future? There are always to-morrows ahead. The Spaniards have this proverb, "The road of Bye-and-bye leads to the town of Never."

A Methodist preacher on the borders of Montana and Idaho says: I have preached during the first quarter fifty-five sermons, and have traveled 350 miles by wagon conveyance, 2,000 miles on horseback, cayuse back, and in one day baptized 348 by immersion. I have visited about 250 times pastorally among the families and mountaineers. We ride 30 and 40 miles a day, and once, to make a revival appointment, I rode seventy-five miles in twelve hours by changing horses, and my colleague rode thirty five miles one afternoon to meet an engagement.

Robertson, of Brighton, well said that "the ancient Greek began by taking art into the service of religion, and ending by converting religion into an art." Protestantism has gone far in the same path; and with an infatuation that seems incredible, to rebound from Puritan stiffness and plainness has been allowed to go to an extent in the matter of church music and architecture which requires but just one thing more to make it self-consistent and complete, viz: the employment of professional elocutionists, without regard to spiritual qualifications, to do the Bible reading and the preaching.

Right and wrong, honor, duty, and country, benevolence toward men and responsibility toward the unseen power by which human actions are guided and controlled—these are not idle phrases. They are realities which correspond with the deepest wants and feelings of our nature; and no man will feel himself utterly cast down who can say in his heart what the wisest and best of the human race have proclaimed in the whole tenor of their lives. Whether I am happy or unhappy is not my chief affair; what most and first concerns me is to find my work in life, to recognize it, and to do it.

The gospel gloomy! It is an anthem from the harps of heaven, the music of the river of life washing its shores on high and pouring in cascades from the earth. Not so cheerful was the song of the morning stars, nor the shout of the sons of God so joyful. Gushing from the fountains of eternal harmony, it was the first heard on earth in a low tone of solemn gladness uttered in Eden by the Lord God himself. Patriarchs caught it up and taught it to the generation following. It breathed from the harp of the psalmists, and rang like a clarion from tower and mountain tops as prophets proclaimed the year of jubilee.

The Bishop of London, in the course of a recent sermon at St. Paul's Cathedral, made a protest against a form of religion much in vogue among the educated classes at the present day. It is, he said, a kind of sentimental religion, which loves to dream over devotional books, over what may be termed the poetry of Christianity, which makes much of the beauties of architecture and music, and longs for a gorgeous ritual such as primitive Christianity never wanted, and such as is not required now. This religion, said the bishop, knows nothing of the stern realities of life, for mere religious sentiment by no means necessarily involves self-denial.

A little girl sat, at twilight, in her sick mother's room, busily thinking. All day she had been full of fun and noise, and had many times annoyed her poor, tired mother. "Ma," said the little girl, "what do you suppose makes me get over my mischief, and begin to act good just about this time every night?" "I do not know, dear. Can you not tell?" "Well, I guess it's because this is when the dark comes. You know I am a little afraid of that. And then, ma, I begin to think of all the naughty things I've done to grieve you, and that, perhaps, you might die before morning, and so I begin to act good."

"Oh!" thought I, "how many of us wait till the dark comes," in the form of sickness or sense of trouble of some kind, before we "begin to act good!" How much better to be good while we are enjoying life's bright sunshine! And then, "when the dark comes," as it will, in a measure, to all, we shall be ready to meet it without fear."

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

D. R. LOCKE. J. P. JONES.

LOCKE & JONES, Proprietors.

TOLEDO, OHIO, THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1874.

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LIVINGSTONE.

Intelligence received in London in January last of the death of this celebrated scientist, explorer, scholar and philanthropist, though still unconfirmed, is generally accepted as true. And though great mystery yet involves the life and labor of the last years of the African explorer, the services which he rendered to geographical science, as well as to humanity, in his efforts to suppress the slave trade, have been immeasurably great, and while it is lamentable that his death occurred before his complete discoveries were given by himself to the enlightened world, his previously great and brilliant contributions to geographical knowledge place his name upon the summit of fame, among his courageous, brave and heroic predecessors in African explorations.

For almost forty years he has devoted himself to opening up and clearing away the mystery which has enveloped Central Africa, and during this entire period he labored unremittingly for the suppression of the slave trade and the elevation of the negro race. His treaty with the Sultan of Zanzibar was of greater interest and benefit to humanity than the discovery of the source of the Nile. The large extent of territory embraced in Equatorial Africa teems with population, and has hitherto presented the great hunting ground of the world for man stealers. And though LIVINGSTONE did not fully succeed in pointing out the European or American trader, the full value of the remunerative market which awaited his commodities, nor did he wholly seal the doom of the Arab man stealer, yet he most undoubtedly paved the way thereto by his pioneer explorations, and the light which he gave the world regarding these unknown regions, and whatever may be the final result of his labors, he has made the road easier for his followers, of whom there is no lack and who now propose to add new links to the chain which is gradually binding Central Africa to the civilized world. A German expedition is on the eve of departure for the west coast of the Congo and explorations therefrom towards the interior are contemplated, while a solitary German traveler, unaided, has for some time worked amid the scenes of LIVINGSTONE'S earlier discoveries on the Zambezi. Though the field of all future explorers is still truly great, DR. LIVINGSTONE has by his arduous and perseveringlabors made their work less difficult, since he has pointed out the way, which by following will lead to that eventual success which is destined to lift the vail from the mysteries which have enveloped the interior of the African continent.

☞ Representative DAWES is severely criticised for his recent sensational speech. He occupies the position of leader of the House, by virtue of his chairmanship of the Ways and Means Committee, and it is not considered evidence of political sagacity on his part to furnish the opposite party with war material. He could have made every point worth making in his speech without offense to any and without injury to his party, had he displayed a reasonable amount of prudence. It is one thing to tear to pieces, and another to build up. The former is generally most easily accomplished, but statesmanship chooses the latter field of labor for its achievements.

☞ It is positively asserted that the pale and cadaverous looking moon-struck females of the country, and their long-haired admirers, devour two million bushels of peanuts annually, to say nothing of cloves, cinnamon, and other luxuries of that character.

HOW SOVEREIGNS KEEP PEACE.

Seldom has a more absurb or bombastic speech been recorded than that of the Czar at St. Petersburg last week, on the occasion of one of the festivities given in honor of his daughter's nuptials, when, in addressing his guests, he declared that the Emperor of Germany, the Queen of England, the Emperor of Austria and himself would preserve the peace of the world. Within a few years all these rulers have been engaged in sanguinary and devastating wars, while the Queen of England, at the present time, is in the midst of a war with Africa, which cannot be excused, to say the least, upon the principles of national honor self-defense, and which the safety of her Majesty's realms or the perpetuity of British institutions do not demand.

Strangely indeed sounds this proposed preservation of the world's peace by Russia, Germany, Austria and Great Britain, to the calm, disinterested reasoner of the outer world, and quite as strangely must it have sounded to British as well as German ears, for while the former is actually at war, the latter is in daily contemplation of it, and is making preparation therefor on a gigantic scale by draining her territory of her ablest and strongest producing element to swell the ranks of her enormous standing armies, oppressing her subjects thereby in a fourfold degree, by withdrawing from the peaceful, bread-earning pursuits of life those best adapted by nature therefor, and causing their support to fall upon those least fitted to bear the burden—the women, the minors and the aged.

General VON MOLTKE in recently addressing the Reichstag, declared that Germany would be obliged to defend her newly acquired territory by force of arms for at least half a century in the future, and earnestly urged the necessity of maintaining the present large military organizations in the most efficient drill and discipline, as well as a constant increase of the army, since war with France might occur at any time, and the safety of the German Empire depended upon her ability to cope not only with France but with neighboring nations. War, then, and a thorough preparation for it, is the main reliance for the "preservation of the peace of the world." For its accomplishment the four countries above named, keep two millions of men in constant military service, who are supported by taxes upon the remainder of the people. These two millions, it must be remembered, form the regular standing army, whose organization is such, that in case of war it may be doubled, trebled and quadrupled. Aside from the armies, the navies require their hundreds of thousands of healthy, able-bodied and young men, who, like the army, derive their support from those less able than themselves to earn it. It is scarce possible to estimate the enormous cost to these nations, which the withdrawal of these millions of soldiers and sailors from the avocations occasions, to say nothing of the misery which it brings to families who are compelled to give up their sons to this Moloch of war, which, according to the testimony of VON MOLTKE, is "the only preserver of the world's peace."

When we consider that the standing army of the United States consists of twenty five thousand men, and her navy is comparatively small, while her territory exceeds that of Russia, Austria, Great Britain and Germany combined by something over five hundred thousand square miles, the excess of a standing army of one million one hundred and seventy-five thousand men, in times of peace, gives a correct idea of its price and the manner in which it is maintained.

Truly it the Czar and his three royal guests had reason to congratulate themselves amid feasting and revelry, over this method of preserving the peace of the world, their oppressed subjects may well pray, deliver us from this kind of peace, while they make every possible effort to expatriate themselves from the land of their nativity, and seek new homes beneath a Government which makes its able bodied, healthy men support themselves, instead of rendering them a burden upon the women, the minors, the infirm and aged, in order to compass peace by the terror of arms and of threatened war.

THE WATER ROUTE.

The proposition, made through these columns a few days since, to enlarge the Wabash & Erie Canal West to Terre Haute, and to extend it from that point to St. Louis, has met with very general favor at the hands of the press and the public. It is so transparently feasible, so unquestionably economical, and so manifestly demanded by the interests of the country, that the proposition cannot fail to favorably impress the mind of every thoughtful person. Should Congress feel disposed to extend Government aid to any internal improvement during the present stringency in financial affairs, we shall confidently expect to see such aid extended to this great water line between the producers of the West and the consumers of the East. It is the only feasible plan yet proposed for insuring cheap transportation, and since the desired object can be obtained through this channel at much less expense than by any other route, no valid reason can be urged against an appropriation for its construction. The friends of this route should impress its importance upon the minds of members of Congress, and by every legitimate means labor to secure such action as may result in the early completion of this great national improvement.

☞ SANTA ANNA, who is seventy-six years of age, is going to Mexico to spend his remaining days in the land of his birth and early glories. He says he returns under President Lerdo's proclamation of amnesty, but is firmly resolved to take no part in Mexican politics. The old reprobate will get up a revolution in Mexico within six weeks.

☞ Boston is greatly excited because SIMMONS, the nominee for Collector, is a BUTLER man.

THE ELECTION OF UNITED STATES SENATORS.

The States of California and Iowa, through their Legislatures, have passed resolutions asking a change in the National Constitution so as to allow Senators to be chosen by the electors of each State. This is a movement in the right direction. The framers of the Constitution were good and wise in their day, but then the experiment of popular government had not been sufficiently demonstrated to give them entire faith in its feasibility. Two offices only, under the National Government, did they give the people a chance to elect, to wit: Representatives in the lower House of Congress, and Presidential Electors. The fathers of the government had progressed far enough to be Republican, but not to be Democratic. Of course we do not use these terms in their modern party acceptation, but according to their original and literal meaning. They did not dare to fully trust the masses with the right of self-government. One by one the States, especially the new States of the West, made full proof of the safety and wisdom of making nearly all offices elective by the people. Ohio had the honor of leading off in the direction of a pure democracy. Grave old fogies shook their heads and said that no good could come from such a venture. But the new States proved to be orderly, intelligent, thrifty and progressive. The older States, in revising their Constitutions, made changes in the same direction. Now intelligent men know that the fears of the fathers on this subject were groundless.

But, in this particular, the Constitution of the United States has undergone no change, except to crowd the States into enfranchising the colored men. The people elect only Representatives and Presidential Electors. Politicians, in the Legislatures, elect the Senators. Sometimes they do it well, thanks to the power of a strong popular sentiment they are careful not to disregard. But, often, of late, the election of Senators more closely resembles an encounter of corrupt and tricky gamesters, than a choice made by a dignified body for a member of the most important political body in the nation. It is time the people took the matter in their own hands.

To remove the choice of Senators from the Legislatures to the people would greatly help the legislation of every State. Legislators would be chosen more with reference to their fitness for the work they ought to do, than with reference to their relation to individual aspirants or to national politics. Thus we would get rid of a great deal of trickery and manœvering that ought to receive a timely check.

Besides, the present plan does not always represent the popular choice. Politicians often gerrymander legislative districts so as to defeat the will of the majority of legal voters being expressed by the Legislature. But for the gerrymander in the Ohio Constitution, Senator THURMAN would not have a title to six years more in the Senate. And but for the same fact he never would have been in the Senate at all. He was not and is not the people's choice.

Let us, then, boldly demand, in the name of the sovereign people, this further concession of rights to the voters. Let the people and not politicians make Senators hereafter.

THE EAST INDIA FAMINE.

Although the cable has brought us no recent intelligence regarding the famine in British East India, from Asiatic correspondence, in and near its vicinity, it appears that the gravity of the situation is on the increase; although the timely care of the government has prevented general starvation thus far, it is feared that it will be impossible during the next four or six months to avoid great suffering from an insufficient quantity of food. The first official calculation was, that out of a population of some thirty millions, one-tenth would require aid from the Government. But later advices demonstrate that these calculations were wholly inadequate, and fall very far short of the required mark. In the district of Tirhoot, which has a population of four millions, one million have for some time drawn rations from the Government, and very great distress prevails among the middle and poorer classes. Even the comparatively wealthy are limiting themselves to one meal a day. A great drawback in supplying food from foreign parts is that no railroads or navigable streams exist in those regions which are most afflicted by the rice famine, and that all the territory suffering from drought is difficult of access. Private efforts in aid of the famine sufferers have been liberally responded to in Calcutta and other cities of Hindostan, but they are entirely inadequate to meet the required amount, since the impending disaster is so great that it can be relieved only by grants of at least a million dollars from the Government Treasury.

HUMAN RIGHTS.

The cause of Human Rights is on the advance. The Supreme Court of Massachusetts gave the cause another jog forward by ruling that women may serve on school committees if the Legislature shall so order. Women are now eligible to one elective office in Massachusetts. We speak of Woman's Rights, but the true term is Human Rights. If any class or sex be unjustly treated, all of humanity must be disastrously affected. This decision does not effect much, it is true, but it is a forward movement, a point gained, a day's march nearer the goal.

Thus, one after another, the old absurdities, injustices and falsehoods receive their quietus and pass into history to be no more known in the actual life of the world. We must walk and not faint in the way of progress. In our impatience we thing nothing is doing when really the world moves after all.

☞ The operatives in the cotton and woolen mills at Kensington, Philadelphia, at ruling prices, make only from four to six dollars per week. No wonder they ask fifteen per cent. advance.

BRAZILIAN WOMEN.

A Rio Janeiro correspondent of the Providence *Journal*, draws a most lamentable picture of the physical, mental and moral condition of the Brazilian women which potently illustrates the deplorable results of ignorance, indolence and absence of mental culture and discipline. Their features are described as universally plain, never beautiful and generally ugly. Their complexions are always sallow and never fresh or clear. Their eyes are large and would be attractive if they reflected the least intelligence. Childhood covers the whole period of physical beauty, and that is very brief, as ignorant and filthy negro nurses usually usurp the mother's place, and the culture and the impressions which they give the child are soon reflected in habits, manners and countenance. Vanity is the ruling passion of young girls, and is encouraged rather than checked by parents. Immoderate indulgence in all manner of sweetmeats and condiments, the entire absence of labor or physical exercise, no mental culture or discipline, and hereditary weakness, produce as imperfect specimens of womanhood as cumber the earth. The teachers in the schools are all foreigners, and represent the school girl life of Brazil as below that of any nation of the world which has made the least advancement towards enlightenment. A smattering of French and music, with dancing, comprise the entire curriculum. Where marriage takes place, it is merely a business arrangement of the parents, and simply changes the home of idleness and listlessness from that of the parent to that of the husband.

The earlier part of the day is passed in a state of slothful *deshabille*, and in lounging about the house, while in the afternoon some attempt at toilette improvement is made, after which locking out of windows and watching the passers by becomes the chief occupation. The window sills are usually cushioned in order to provide soft leaning places, and white and black, high and low, educated and illiterate lean out upon them until darkness renders the passers by invisible. The evenings are passed in the same idle apathy without occupation for mind and body. As all labor is considered degrading, every sacrifice is made by parents to rear the daughters in absolute indolence. The wealthier classes are as haughty, reserved, ignorant and exclusive as the Spanish Hidalgos of the medieval ages, and never associate with those beyond the pale of their particular caste. Thus the Brazilian woman develops and matures young, and becomes old in youth. Her moral sensibilities and mental faculties are obscured by the life she leads, and the social atmosphere in which she exists, and though her father or brother makes higher attainments by intercourse with the outer world, like the oriental woman, this world is an unknown sphere to her, acquaintance with which her native apathy and indolence renders impossible.

THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT.

The DIO LEWIS temperance movement has thus far been chiefly confined to Southern and Central Ohio. Scarcely an effort has been made north of the Summit level. True, in this city preliminary steps have been taken looking towards the organization of singing and praying bands of women to visit saloons and thus seek to close their doors, but the experience of those engaged in this remarkable work in Southern and Central Ohio is not calculated to encourage those who are seeking to inaugurate the movement in larger cities. It works well in villages, and throughout the entire southwestern portion of the State and up into Central Ohio the wave has rolled triumphantly forward, only broken when it strikes the walls of cities like Columbus, Mt. Vernon, and other places having from 6,000 to 30,000 inhabitants. The belief is quite general that this movement is spasmodic in its character—that it must soon die out—and that the reaction will leave the temperance cause farther back than DIO LEWIS found it when he opened his batteries upon the saloons in Fayette county. Thus believing, many leading and earnest advocates of temperance deprecate the present movement and see only evil as its effects. On the other hand, many who believe the present movement one of short life, claim that it will bring the traffic into bad odor, that it will awaken public sentiment to the importance of temperance, and thereby cause a general advance in the right direction. Reasons can be given for each of these positions, and we are not prepared to say which is correct. While this movement partakes of a spirit bordering upon a trespass on private rights, it can scarcely be classed with mobs. In this respect it differs widely from the former attacks made by women upon saloons with hatchets and clubs. Those attacks, so far as we have observed, almost invariably resulted in an increase of saloons and drunkeness. In Mt. Vernon, where this method of attack was first made in the State, there was at that time but little intemperance. Soon after, it became noted for the number of its saloons and the dissipating habits of its young men. It is to be hoped that the present movement may not be attended with such results.

☞ The brewers and saloon keepers of Chicago are at loggerheads. The brewers recently held a meeting and agreed to advance the price of their beer from $10 to $12 per barrel, whereupon the saloon keepers called a meeting and resolved to pay but $10 per barrel or import their beer from other cities. Can't DIO LEWIS put in an appearance and cause a suspension of hostilities?

☞ A Cambridge Professor has decided that a human being couldn't live a minute in the moon. Somebody ought to test the correctness of the Professor's statement.

☞ The New York *Independent* disapproves of the women's war upon saloon keepers. It likes the object but does not sanction the means used to get it.

A COUNTESS COME TO GRIEF.

The land of steady habits and wooden nutmegs boasts of a live Countess, who like so many of her aristocratic colleagues of the masculine persuasion has come to grief through an unfortunate faculty of spending money more liberally than her pecuniary means warranted. At the Superior Court of Bridgeport, Ct., a hearing was had last week, on a petition to dissolve an injunction obtained by Duncan, Sherman & Co., bankers of New York, restraining the Countess HEINRITH, of Greenwich, from committing waste on her property. The evidence of the petition was taken and the argument adjourned for one week.

The Bridgeport press contains brief biographical sketches of the titled defendant in the suit, according to which her career has been, what in American vulgate would be denominated "fast." The Countess is of Irish-English birth, and probably inherited the characteristics of her father, who was an officer in the British army, together with the generous unreflective nature of her mother, a native of the Emerald Isle. She has been three times married, her first husband being dead, her second divorced, and from the third, a German Count, she derives her high standing title, and in company with him she emigrated from England in 1868 and settled in Greenwich, Ct., where she purchased three large farms, besides investing heavily in real estate in Greenwich and possessing other extensive property in England.

After taking up her residence in Greenwich, she very soon became a celebrated fashion leader, and displayed the most profuse luxury and extravagance, expending large sums of money upon jewelry, equipages, etc., and enacting the successful *role* of Lady Bountiful in that town and vicinity. Presently her resources manifested a palpable decrease, since she failed to pay her bills, and inquiry elicited the fact that the lavish and reckless prodigality which had characterized her manner of living, had swept away a very large fortune, the loss of which had left her so reduced that her residence was without a fire or carpets. She claimed that she had been swindled by her agent in England, who had appropriated her funds, nevertheless her creditors assert that she is incompetent to take care of property, and hence their endeavors to prevent her from squandering what little remains, in order that their debts may be secured. Her appearance in court was a nine days' sensation. She wore a dress of faded magnificence with a court train, and a brilliant display of jewelry, although according to her own testimony, her most valuable jewels had been pawned or sold to procure the necessaries of life. The Countess HEINRITH is tall and very pretty, and about forty-five years of age. Should many years of life yet remain to her, she will undoubtedly feel the keen pangs of poverty and indigence, which must ever result from an extravagance and a prodigality like her's, and her carter may well point out a valuable lesson to those of her American sisters and brothers who foolishly strive to live beyond their means.

LIBERIAN COLONIZATION.

A colored citizen of Georgia has got the Liberian colonization fever. He wants Congress to help transport numbers of colored people to Africa who think they can do better there. The colored people of this country have many things to make them discontented here, but they cannot better their condition by going to Africa. The discontent they now feel is happiness itself compared with that which they will complain of if they are insane enough to enter upon such an adventure.

The Liberian colony, after a half century's existence, can hardly be called a success. For the Americanized black man it is about as unhealthy and uncongenial as for the white man. The cost of moving considerable colonies is immense. At the best, but few could get there. The few who have means can go if they wish, but the great mass of the colored race in America can no more be carried back to Africa than they can be translated to the moon.

The slave-holders started the Liberian colony as a scape-pipe for the philanthropic feeling of the country, and a place for such colored people as could not be retained in slavery. Soft-souled philanthropists, not depraved enough to defend slavery, and not brave enough to attack it, could be occupied and diverted by the colonization plaything. A few free colored people could be got rid of, so as to prevent their presence making discontent among the slaves. But since the overthrow of slavery neither white people nor colored ought to consider the thought for a moment. If the colored people emigrate it must be toward the setting of the sun, and not toward its place of rising. With them, as with other peoples, the star of empire is westward.

In this land this great battle for humanity must be fought out. By gaining in wealth, in knowledge, in mechanical skill, in all that constitutes success here, the colored race will do their work in evangelizing and elevating their race and the land of their origin. Congress will not aid colonizing schemes. We have need for all the workers we have. And none who are able to work, and who will work, need leave this country. Let the colored people allow no speculators to excite discontent or lure them into ruinous adventures by colonization schemes. By industry and content, they can do better in this land than any where on earth.

☞ Congressman BUCHANAN, of Illinois, has wiped the stain from his skirts by returning to the Treasury of the United States the sum of $6 049.60, being the full amount of back and forward pay which fell to his share as a member of the Forty-second and Forty-third Congresses.

☞ The Kansas Senate has passed a joint resolution to submit the question of Woman's Suffrage to a vote of the people. Thus the good cause gains a point now and then. Keep up the agitation!

Senator Sherman stated that the United States had more money to-day, per capita, than either England or France. Either the Senator is sadly mistaken or statisticians are greatly at fault. According to well authenticated information, in 1872, the circulation in the United States was $13 55 per capita, in England, in 1868, it was $19 50, and in France, in the same year, it was $25.—BLADE.

If Senator Sherman so declared, it is probably so. Mr. Sherman is one of our most cautious and reliable men. He does not make declarations without first considering what he is going to say, and once said it may be accepted as a fact.—*Bucyrus Journal.*

We know of no better authority for the figures relied upon by the BLADE than Carv of the horny-hand. Senator Sherman has of course made the statements on this subject, in his very able financial speech, on the best authorities, and his accuracy may be safely assumed until convincing evidence is adduced to the contrary. We do not think it can be found.—*Cin. Times.*

Had the Cincinnati *Times* and the Bucyrus *Journal* taken the trouble to look up the figures, they might not have been so certain that Senator SHERMAN did not make a mistake in his attempt to state the facts about the amount of currency in circulation in this country, per capita, as compared with that furnished to the people of England and France. Mr. JOHN J. KNOX, Comptroller of the Currency, should be tolerably good authority upon this subject, and a reference to his reports for 1872 and 1873 must convince any one that Senator SHERMAN'S statement is not correct. In his report for 1872, Mr. KNOX gives the circulation of Great Britain, per capita, at $25 05, and that of France at $19 48—a slight variation from our figures. In his report for 1873, he gives the following as the amount of currency issued by the Government and outstanding on the first of November:

National Bank Currency	$350,332 884
Legal Tender	360,952,306
Fractional Currency	47,876,149
Total	$759,161,239

This represents the amount outstanding and not redeemed by the Government. How much of it is destroyed and will never be presented for redemption, cannot now be known, though perhaps seven per cent. would be a low estimate. But it must not be supposed that the $759,161,239 is in actual circulation, of that it can be made available. The Government requires the National Banks to constantly hold a reserve of from ten to fifteen per cent.,—the latter amount in sixteen of the largest cities. This reserve fund, which must be locked up in the bank vaults at all times, amounts, in the aggregate, to $198,675,930. Now let us deduct this from the aggregate amount of currency issued and we will have the actual amount of circulation as follows:

Total amount of currency	$759,161,239
Legal Reserve	198,675,930
Actual circulation	$560,485,309

Supposing that none of this outstanding currency has been destroyed, the total paper currency circulation is $560,485 309. We have a population of about 42,000,000, which shows a per capita circulation of $13.33 of paper currency, while the specie circulation would probably swell the amount to $13 55, as stated in the above extract from the BLADE. But even this is not a fair representation of our actual available currency, since in this and many other States, County Treasurers are prohibited from placing the funds in their hands where they can be made available for business purposes, and a large amount of currency is thus constantly locked up—legally removed from the channels of trade. We have no doubt but the actual facts would show our per capita circulation not to exceed $12, which is less than half that of France, and less than two thirds that of Great Britain. While this is true, every one must admit that the people of this country require from one-third to one-half more currency, per capita, than either England or France. Our people are spread out over a vast scope of country and they are emphatically business men—nearly every man being engaged in some business which requires the use of more or less capital.

☞ In attempting economical reforms great discretion must be used. There is such a thing as going rashly about a good and necessary work. When things are to be overhauled and changed only the most careful and thoughtful minds should be trusted. It is proposed to abolish the postal service by carriers in the cities, in order to save something. Go slow on that. The people are accommodated by this system, and they are willing to pay what it costs. The Postoffice must be made more serviceable, and not less so. Let well enough alone.

☞ Kansas legislators are feeling the hard times this winter. The demand for votes is meager, and, consequently, the members are not making money as in former years. A poetical member gives voice to his grief in numbers as below:

"There's nobody buying votes this winter,
Because of corruption there's been such a
boiler;
I might walk the streets from morning till
night,
And my vote wouldn't sell for a dollar."

☞ Spain and the United States are now the only countries where railroad trains are forcibly stopped and robbed by organized bands of highwaymen. The bold feats of the depredators in Missouri and Iowa suggest the need of more efficient police arrangements to prevent crime of this sort, if our national reputation for quietness and safety be not made to suffer.

☞ A Virginia Solon has introduced a bill in the Legislature of that State to prevent the sale of liquors to minors, habitual drunkards, and *persons liable to become intoxicated*. A comprehensive measure, and one which would shut up every whisky shop in Virginia. The first two classes take two-thirds of the male population of that State, and the last the other third.

☞ Members of Congress who favor currency contraction and high transportation want an early adjournment, and three members who want to "fix things" in their districts are also anxious to get home. These influences will probably secure an early adjournment.

☞ Governor SHEPHERD thinks he can furnish the District of Columbia investigating committee with such facts as they require by using up one thousand pages of foolscap. So it goes.

RADWAY'S PREPARATIONS.

The Wonders of Modern Chemistry.

SARSAPARILLIAN AND ITS ASSOCIATES.

CHANGES AS SEEN AND FELT AS THEY DAILY OCCUR,

After Using a Few Doses of

DR. RADWAY'S

SARSAPARILLIAN RESOLVENT

The Great Blood Purifier.

1. Good spirits, disappearance of weakness, languor, melancholy; increase and hardness of flesh and muscles, etc.
2. Strength increases, appetite improves, relish for food, no more sour eructations or waterbrash, good digestion, calm and undisturbed sleep, awaken fresh and vigorous.
3. Disappearance of spots, blotches, pimples; the skin looks clear and healthy, the urine changed from its turbid and cloudy appearance to a clear sherry or amber color, water passes freely from the bladder through the urethra without pain or scalding; little or no sediment; no pain or weakness.
4. Marked diminution of quantity and frequency of involuntary weakening discharges (if afflicted that way), with certainty of permanent cure. Increased strength exhibited in the secreting glands and functional harmony restored to the several organs.
5. Yellow tinge on the whites of the eyes, and the swarthy, saffron appearance of the skin changed to a clear, lively and healthy color.
6. Those suffering from weak or ulcerated lungs or tubercles will realize great benefit in expectorating freely the tough phlegm or mucous from the lungs, air-cells, bronchi or windpipe, throat or head; diminishing of the frequency of cough; general increase of strength throughout the system, stoppage of night sweat and pains and feeling of weakness around the ankles, legs, shoulders, etc.; cessation of cold and chills, sense of suffocation; hard breathing and paroxysms of cough on lying down or arising in the morning. All these distressing symptoms gradually and surely disappear.
7. As day after day the SARSAPARILLIAN is taken, new signs of returning health will appear; as the blood improves in strength and purity disease will diminish, and all foreign and impure deposits, nodes, tumors, cancers, hard lumps, etc., be resolved away and the unsound made sound and healthy; ulcers, fever sores, scrofulous sores, chronic skin diseases gradually disappear.
8. In cases where the system has been salivated, and Mercury, Quicksilver, Corrosive Sublimate have accumulated and become deposited in the bones, joints, etc., causing caries of the bones, rickets, spinal curvatures, contortions, white swellings, varicose veins, etc., the SARSAPARILLIAN will resolve away these deposits and exterminate the virus of the disease from the system.
9. If those who are taking these medicines for the cure of Chronic, Scrofulous, or Syphilitic diseases, however slow may be the cure, "feel better," and find their general health improving, their flesh and weight increasing or even keeping its own, it is a sure sign that the cure is progressing. In these diseases the patient either gets better or worse—the virus of the disease is not inactive; if not arrested and driven from the blood, it will spread and continue to undermine the constitution. As soon as the SARSAPARILLIAN makes the patient "feel better" every hour you will grow better and increase in health, strength, and flesh.

The great power of this remedy is in diseases that threaten death—as in CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS and Tuberculous Phthisis, Scrofula, Syphiloid Diseases, Wasting, Degeneration and Ulceration of the Kidneys, Diabetes, Stoppage of Water instantaneous relief afforded where catheters have to be used, thus doing away with the painful operation of using these instruments; dissolving stone to the bladder, and in all cases of Inflammation of the Bladder and Kidneys in Chronic cases of Leucorrhea and Uterine diseases.

In tumors, nodes, hard lumps, and syphiloid ulcers; in dropsy; in venereal sore throat, ulcers, and in tubercles of the lungs; in gout, dyspepsia, rheumatism, rickets; in mercurial deposits—it is in these terrible forms of disease, where the human body has become a complete wreck, and where every hour of existence is torture, wherein this great remedy challenges the astonishment and admiration of the sick. It is in such cases, where all the pleasures of existence appear cut off from the unfortunate, and by its wonderful, almost supernatural agency it restores the hopeless to a new life and new existence where this great remedy stands alone in its might and power.

In the ordinary skin diseases that every one is more or less troubled with, a few doses will in most cases, and a few bottles in the more aggravated forms, work a permanent cure.

Those afflicted with chronic diseases should purchase a package containing one dozen bottles. Price—$10 per dozen, or $5 per half dozen bottles, or $1 per bottle. Sold by druggists.

R. R. R.

Radway's Ready Relief

CURES THE WORST PAINS

In from One to Twenty Minutes.

NOT ONE HOUR.

after reading this advertisement, need any one SUFFER WITH PAIN.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF IS A CURE FOR EVERY PAIN.

It was the first and is

The Only Pain Remedy

that instantly stops the most excruciating pains, allays Inflammations, and cures Congestions, whether of the Lungs, Stomach, Bowels, or other glands or organs, by one application.

IN FROM ONE TO TWENTY MINUTES, no matter how violent or excruciating the pain, the RHEUMATIC, Bed-ridden, Infirm, Crippled, Nervous, Neuralgic, or prostrated with disease may suffer.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

WILL AFFORD INSTANT EASE.

INFLAMMATION OF THE KIDNEYS, INFLAMMATION OF THE BLADDER, INFLAMMATION OF THE BOWELS, CONGESTION OF THE LUNGS, SORE THROAT, DIFFICULT BREATHING, PALPITATION OF THE HEART, HYSTERICS, CROUP, DIPTHERIA, CATARRH, INFLUENZA, HEADACHE, TOOTHACHE, NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, COLD CHILLS, AGUE CHILLS.

The application of the READY RELIEF to the part or parts where the pain or difficulty exists, will afford ease and comfort.

Twenty drops in half a tumbler of water will in a few moments cure CRAMPS, SPASMS, SOUR STOMACH, HEARTBURN, SICK HEADACHE, DIARRHŒA, DYSENTERY, COLIC, WIND IN THE BOWELS and all INTERNAL PAINS.

Travelers should always carry a bottle of RADWAY'S READY RELIEF with them. A few drops in water will prevent sickness or pains from change of water. It is better than French Brandy or Bitters as a stimulant.

FEVER AND AGUE.

FEVER AND AGUE cured for fifty cents.—There is not a remedial agent in this world that will cure Fever and Ague, and all other Malarious, Bilious, Scarlet, Typhoid, Yellow, and other Fevers called by RADWAY'S PILLS, so quick as RADWAY'S READY RELIEF. Fifty cent per bottle.

DR. RADWAY'S

PERFECT PURGATIVE

AND

REGULATING PILLS

perfectly tasteless, elegantly coated with sweet gum, purge, regulate, purify, cleanse and strengthen. Radway's Pills for the cure of all disorders of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Nervous Diseases, Headache, Constipation, Costiveness, Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Bilious Fever, Inflammation of the Bowels, Piles, and all Derangements of the Internal Viscera. Warranted to effect a positive cure. Purely Vegetable, containing no mercury, minerals, or deleterious drugs.

☞ Observe the following symptoms resulting from Disorders of the Digestive Organs:

Constipation, Inward Piles, Fullness of the Blood in the Head, Acidity of the Stomach, Nausea, Heartburn, Disgust of Food, Fullness or Weight in the Stomach, Sour Eructations, Sinking or Fluttering at the Pit of the stomach, Swimming of the Head, Hurried and Difficult Breathing, Fluttering at the Heart, Choking or Suffocating Sensations when in a Lying Posture, Dimness of Vision, Dots or Webs before the Sight, Fever and Dull Pain in the Head, Deficiency of Perspiration, Yellowness of the Skin and Eyes, Pain in the Side, Chest and Limbs, and sudden Flushes of Heat, Burning in the Flesh.

A few doses of RADWAY'S PILLS will free the system from all the above named disorders. Price, 25 cents per box. Sold by Druggists.

READ "FALSE AND TRUE." Send letter-stamp to RADWAY & CO. No. 7 Warren st., New York, information worth thousands will be sent you.

To Our Correspondents.

Questions for this department of the BLADE should be written plainly, and on one side of the sheet only. They should be kept separate from communications regarding subscriptions, books, specimen copies, and other matters of a purely business character. The latter either should be written on a separate sheet, or with a blank line dividing them from the questions. The full name and address should accompany each letter.

A SUBSCRIBER, Ill., asks: 1. Will the book in BLADE list No. 4, entitled "Drawings for Machinists and Engineer," teach me anything about steam engineering? 2d. Does a person have to be a blacksmith before he can be a locomotive engineer? 3. What is the principal cause of steam boiler explosions? 4. Can it be prevented? Ans: 1. Yes. 2. We think not. 3. The iron plates of which a boiler is formed will only stand a certian amount of pressure per square inch. When steam is generated so fast that its pressure is greater than the strength of the iron of course it tears these plates to pieces. 4. Certainly.

READER, Cambridge City, Ind.—We do not believe the Hudson Bay Fur Company have price lists. Engraving can be learned at an engravers we suppose.

T. E. B., So. Bloomfield, O.—The words mean "George III., by the grace of God, King of Spain," and the coin has no extra value. Crawford—whom you mention—might have been a very smart man, but we confess we never heard of him before.

S. E. F., Scotch Ridge, O., writes:—A young man of fine talents and a good mechanic who is self-dependent for means of education would like to know which would be most advisable, to marry and settle in life, or continue his education until he is 25?" We submit that "a young man of fine talents" ought to be able to decide such a matter as this for himself. Perhaps he has heard that men must stop educating themselves when they get married, but if so, we assure him it is a mistake.

W. C. P., Pettisville, O.—Wants to know how surnames originated and about what time. Surnames first began in the East. They were introduced into England by the Normans, and were adopted by the nobility about the year 1100. Surnames probably grew from men's trade, profession or condition. Thus it is probable John, the Smith, was shortened in John Smith; Richard, the farmer, into Richard Farmer; William, the baker, into William Baker; and James, the baker's son, into James Bakerson, &c.

K. H. Caledonia, asks: Are the prophecies said to have been uttered by "Mother Shipton" about 322 years ago, genuine or a forgery? Also, give us a receipt for making grafting wax.—The prophecies spoken of are said to be genuine, but we should prefer to call them shrewd guesses, ourselves.—For a good grafting wax take rosin, 4 lbs.. bees-wax, 1 lb., linseed oil, 1 pint. Melt together and pour into cold water. When it is cool enough draw it as you would molasses candy. The more it is worked the better it will be.

J. W. B., Barber's Mills, Ind.,—writes: Please give me in your "Answers" a simple statement of what is meant by "watering rail-rord stock," I desire an answer for the information of our Grange. We will suppose a rail road is built and its capital stock is 100 shares worth $1,000, a share. At a meeting of the directors they vote to issue fifty additional shares of stock, and this $50,000 is spent on the old road or stolen by the directors. The road instead of having to earn a profit on $100,000 the first capital now has its earnings divel among $150,000. No additional miles of track has been laid, and nothing done to increase the earnings of the road, so of course the shares will not be worth as much as they were at first. Allowing that the earnings are the same one and a half shares now will have no more of the dividend than one share had at first. Stock-brokers say the stock has been "watered" $50,000, because there are a greater number of shares than before.

IGNORAMUS, Butler Co., Kan.,—wishes we would be so kind as to answer a few questions, and we notice the first two were answered only three or four weeks ago, consequently we must consider IGNORAMUS as a not very observing young lady and must decline looking up the matter again. She asks, in addition to above: 1. Who is the author of "Richard is himself again?" 2. How are the names Bazaine and Thiers pronounced? 3. Was the author of "Reveries of a Batchelor" a single man at the time "Reveries" were written, and is he yet married? 4. Shakespeare. 2. Bazaine is pronounced exactly as it is spelled. Thiers is pronounced as if spelled "tears," 3. Mitchell was a single man when he wrote that work but he has been married some years.

REV. S. G. A., Fair Haven, N. J.—Mix with water to a creamy consistency and lay it on the skin where the hairs are which you wish to remove, and keep it there until it smarts. Treat the skin afterwards as if for a burn.

W. J. H.—We do not understand why you should ask us if book list No. 4 is in force yet, when it is to be found in our advertising column every week. If it were not in force it would be taken out. Gen'l Sherman's pay is $13,500; General Sheridan's $11,000. We believe Swedenborgians do hold that brute animals will have another life or resurrection.

L. WOLCOTT.—The origin of the American Indians is an undecided question. Some hold they are a distinct people; others think they crossed over from Asia. The engine would be about one horse power. Woodbury's German Reader is a good work. You can get it at any book store, or from the American News Co., New York City.

SUBSCRIBER, Quincy, Ill.—We do not know the parties. The master of your lodge could easily learn whether they are responsible or not.

G. G., Cory, Ohio.—In the BLADE, February 19th, you will see answer to "Volunteer." If you are entitled to any bounty it will come under that law.

MEERSCHAUM, ——, wants us to tell him what Meerschaum Pipes are made of. The meaning of the word is sea foam. It is found in some parts of Germany, in Spain and several countries on the Mediterranean. In a natural state it is a mineral of soft, earthy texture, somewhat resembling chalk. When first taken out it is soft and makes lather like soap. After being formed into pipes they are boiled in oil or wax and then baked.

SUBSCRIBER, Castalia, Ohio, wants to know if the National or State Grange can impose taxes or fees on members of subordinate Granges, other than the quarterly fees and regular initiatory charges. We do not think they can under the present Constitution of the Order. In answer to your other question, try the *Southern Agriculturist*, Savannah, Georgia.

G. A. L., Cedar Rapids, Iowa.—There are several good lives of Napoleon I. One by Lockhart, in two vols., for $1.50 per vol., is the best for the money.

Miss S. C., Coxsackie, N. Y.—We wrote you but had our letter returned, and we do not care to go into the matter again.

W. S. M., Nixon, Ill.—Another copy of the magazine has been sent to you.

MAJ. R. M. D., Sabell City, Mo.—From several correspondents we learn that the 4th of July 1814 was on Monday.

MRS. L. E. LEATH, Spencer, Tenn.,—says: I received the number of the BLADE and the book "Wonders of the World" and am very much pleased with both. I think the BLADE improves every year.

J. CUMB, Ill.—Our answer was correct and yours is not. You overlook that the four sides are the same here.

TURNER EVAN.—We will be glad to have a short statement of the corrections you have made. Write on only one side of the paper.

E. P., Exeter, Neb.—asks about a firm who have been owned out in Chicago. He has sent them money and wants to know if he can do anything to get it back. No. The concern was a fraud and we advise all to shun it, for every one who sent them money must suffer.

O. B., Sodus, O.—The firm is spoken of as being somewhat after the order of confidence men. We advise you not to send any money to them.

A. E., Whitney's Point, N. Y.—The Soldier's and Sailor's Homestead law allows *every man* who has served 90 days in the recent war to enter 160 acres of land; also that the time he served in the army or navy, provided it is not more than four years, shall be deducted from the five years which all others are obliged to reside on their land. He can file his claim for a tract of land through an agent, but he must commence settlement and improvement within six months from that time, and must reside on the land for one year. The agent must have a duly executed power of attorney to enable him to enter the land.

ROSE E., Reisinville, Mo.—asks: What kind of paper should a piece of poetry be written on? We never heard of any publishers who refused poetry because of the paper it was written on, but we have seen a great deal of wretched poetry on very excellent paper.

KENO, Windsor, O.,—asks: Can I secure a patent on an article not invented by myself? Certainly not. To get a patent the person must swear that he believes himself to be the original and first inventor of the article, and that he does not know and does not believe that the same was ever before known or used.

R. R., Jerry City, O.—asks: 1. Is the husband of Mrs. H. B. Stowe a clergyman? 2. Is the sister of A. Lincoln still living? 3. If a man should buy a beehive and a right to manufacture, and the same hive should be sold at Administrator's sale, would the purchaser have the right to manufacture the same as the first purchaser? 4. What is the meaning of *Sat Cito si sat bene*? 1. Yes. 2. We don't know. 3. You do not state the case very clearly, but the selling of a hive would not carry with it the right to manufacture unless it was distinctly stated that it did. 4. "Soon enough, if but well enough."

W. H., Bedford, Me.—Your enquiry properly comes under the head of an advertisement, and cannot be admitted in these columns.

G. W. S., Sullivan Co., Mo., would like to have us lend him $100.—If G. W. S. will excuse us this time, he will do us a favor. We expect to hear of him yet as a great man, for he certainly is not too bashful to interfere with his own success.

G. R. H., Darrtown, O.—The "Aldine" is published by James Sutton & Co., 23 Liberty St., New York.

A. H., Hibbardville, O., wants the address of a manufacturer of metallic labels for marking sheep. We think advertisers might make a note of this.

CHAS. PETERS, Ills.—See answer to W. H.

A READER OF THIS BLADE, Illinois.—The first Grange was started by O. H. Kelley. If you do not know what the object of the Granges is, we think you must have failed to read the papers. She inquires, "Did Judas Iscariot partake of the Lord's Supper?" We think if we had the correspondent's name we would ask the Bible Society to send her a testament. We recommend our correspondent to buy a Bible and read the XIII Chap. of John. Abraham Lincoln served as Captain in the Black Hawk war.

A MEMBER of 72d Ill. Inf'y., would like to know the whereabouts of Capt. E. Morgan or Surgeon Beers of that Reg't. If any of our readers know, will they please send us the information?

PERPETUAL MOTION would like the name of a wooden-sole shoe manufactory. Advertisers take notice. We don't know who makes the best skates.

JOHN F. LITTLE.—The *Times* and the *Post*.

A. T. T., Bay View, Md.—From what you say we think you would perhaps find Wordsworth's Works just what you want.—We have no books in the lists about carriage painting, but you can get works of that kind by addressing Henry Carey Baird, Philadelphia.

QUERIST,' Galesburg, Ill.—Your questions about short hand writing have been fully answered in these columns and not more than two months ago. We do not care to again go over the ground. He asks; "Is it proper for a young man upon leaving a place to ask a young lady acquaintance for her photograph?" If she is simply an acquaintance, we think it would be very proper for her to refuse. If she was a friend, there is no reason why he should not make the request.

J. M. M., Spickardsville, Mo.—We do not know why the mark is made on their covers. How is your writing? Oh, vanity, vanity! How the world does hanker after compliments! Very fair.

O. H. M., North Reading, N. Y., asks: Is your book, "The Wonders of the World," the same as was advertised in the papers under the title "The World of Wonders?" It is not. Our book is published in Edinburg, Scotland.

JOHN Y., Rock Prairie, Mo.—See answer to W. H.

GEORGE READE, Muddy Creek.—Better be cautious in dealing with the parties. Don't believe all you hear.

M. A. A. propounds the following important query: "How should a young gentleman, who is detailed to wait upon a lady at a supper, with whom he is not on friendly terms, appear towards her?" If we only knew what our correspondent meant by "appear," we might be able to answer the question. If she meant to ask how he should approach her, we would answer that he should approach her as respectfully and politely as if they were on the most friendly footing.

DISTRICT SCHOOL, Otterbein, Ind.—Jamestown is on our map; we can not tell why it is not on yours. The "Greeley Colony" is in Greeley, Colorado, and numbers about 2,500. Our correspondent "Lucas," in one of his "Rocky Mountain" letters gave a very full description of the Colony as it was then.

SETH WIGGINS, Plainfield, O.—A man cannot homestead a quarter and pre-empt *at the same time*. How can he live in two places at once? He must live on his place six months in order to pre-empt, and he must live five years on the quarter he expects to get under homestead laws. If you can show he can live on both quarters at once, we will be glad to hear from you. In answer to your other question, "Can a man buy a section of land at $1.25 per acre if he settles on it and becomes a permanent settler?" Why not take it for nothing under the homestead law? He can buy it for $1.25 after having resided on it six months.

W. C. F., Allegan, Mich.—We know nothing about the parties in Maine. Charles IV. abdicated the Spanish throne in 1808.

WHITE ROCK, Kansas,—asks if a will made by a man in Canada will be allowed to stand, should the man afterwards move to the United States and die here? Certainly it will. So that is properly drawn and witnessed, it does not matter where it was written.

A SUBSCRIBER, Nebraska.—The law is very plain on the point you refer to us. It says: The homestead settler must be actually residing upon his land within six months after he has paid his fees, and must not be absent after that from it more than six months at any one time on pain of losing it, if complained of. It looks to us as if your chance was a risky one.

C. W. C., Berwick, Ohio.—Write to the General Superintendent of whatever road you want to work on. We do not know anything about the chances of obtaining situations.

A. J. F., Kingsville, Mo.—In regard to bounty, drop a line, with stamp, to T. A. Talmadge, Columbus, Ohio. 2. We do not know about the insurance Company you ask for, but there are so many companies who are good, we would not advise you to insure in one that you were doubtful about. 3. Write to S. Douglass & Sons, Waukegan, Ill.

REV. H. D., Frankfort, Ill.—We think you are entitled to a bounty. Write to T. W. Talmadge, Columbus, Ohio, and state the case to him.

JOHNNY JOHNSON, Joliet, Ill.—You are probably entitled to $100 additional bounty, but your best way is to send a statement of your case to T. W. Talmadge, Commons, Ohio.

L. S., Mattoon, Ill.—We have no means of knowing "how much land remains untaken in the United States." Nor have we at hand any figures showing what the foreign immigration to this country was in 1872.

Miscellaneous.

The Siamese Twins in their Own Land.

When I first saw the Siamese Twins their strange foreign features, and the few sentences spoken for my entertainment in the harsh dialect of their country, made as strong an impression on my childish fancy as the freak of Nature which united them so closely. Yet I scarcely expected then ever to visit the place of their birth, or to converse with their parents in their own vernacular. When, however, after the lapse of years, my husband and myself were setting forth on our Eastern tour, we sought out the Twins in order to learn from them something of their former home and connections. They evinced much emotion when told that we should probably visit their country, and readily gave us the address of their parents. When we asked, "What message shall we take to them?" Chang said something in a low tone to his brother, at which Eng smiled and shook his head negatively, and then both spoke out, Chang saying, "Tell them we are coming home some time," and Eng adding, "—When we have made money enough."

The twins were born some thirty miles southwest of Bangkok, in a little fishing village that derives its name from the Ma Klaung ("Great Canal"), on which fronts the single narrow street of low straggling houses that compose the town. But while Chang and Eng were yet in their infancy the parents removed to Bangkok, and were, when we saw them, living within four miles of the city. The father was a Chinaman, who spoke the Tai-Chau dialect. He was of medium height, somewhat stout, but well formed, and intelligent for one of the laboring class. The mother was born in Siam, of a Chinese father and Siamese mother; so that the twins were one-fourth Siamese and three-fourths Chinese, so far as parentage was concerned, and the people about Bangkok speak of them as the "*Chinese* Twins." Being born in the country, they spoke the Siamese language far more fluently than they did the Chinese. However, they wore the Chinese dress, and their hair was braided *a la Chinoise*, as do all the *male* children of Chinese fathers; and the parents both spoke of their sons as Chinese, utterly ignoring their place of birth and the mother's nationality. The mother of the twins was a fair, comely woman of medium height and well-developed form. She had good health, and looked still youthful, though already the mother of fourteen children, nine of whom were then living. Two were then living. Two were prematurely born, two died in early infancy, and one of small-pox at the age of six years or thereabouts. Chang and Eng were the first-born sons of their parents, and there were four other pairs of twins and four children born, one at a birth; but none except Chang and Eng had any abnormal peculiarity, and those that we saw were all healthy, intelligent and pleasing in appearance. Chang and Eng were born in the latter part of 1811 or early in 1812, we could not learn definitely which, as no record had been kept. The mother spoke of them as somewhat smaller at birth than her other offspring, and as seeming feeble for the first six months of their lives, Eng especially, who was never quite as large as his brother.

The notion that the Twins were in any sort *one*, that they were actuated by one mind or impulse, has had often been suggested, never seemed to have entered the mother's mind, and when questioned on the subject she utterly rejected the idea. She had never perceived that the illness of one affected the other: one sometimes cried while she was nursing his brother, or one might hurt his hand or foot, and the other not feel pain, but if the ligament that united the twain was touched just in the centre, both were conscious of it. They always played together as twos, not as one; and when they began to prattle they often spoke to each other than to those about them. It is obvious why this habit of conversing together was not more common with the Twins as they grew older. Being always together and enjoying precisely the same facilities for acquiring information, there could be little occasion for one to communicate with the other.

The mother told us, further, that these children seldom disagreed with each other, though occasionally she had to interfere and compel one or the other to give up. Chang being larger, stronger, and more inteligent, ordinarily took the initiative, and Eng, who was decidedly amiable, while his brother was irritable, and sometimes passionate, seldom contended for the supremacy. But now and then, either that the rule of the stronger became too stringent, or that the weaker was in a less yielding mood than ordinary, these closest of friends would become so incensed as to make use of some very unfraternal epithets toward each other. A whisper in the ear of one was not heard by the other, and if he to whom the communication had been made failed to impart it at once to his brother, unkind words were sure to follow, and sometimes the coolness lasted for days. After the reconciliation, which was always cordial and entire, both brothers spoke deprecatingly of their quarrel, and for a long time were more devoted than ever to each other.

The mother said that at first the ligament that united the boys was so short as to compel them to face each other, nor could they turn in bed without being lifted up and laid in the desired position; but as they grew and exercised more freely, the ligament gradually lengthened till they were able to stand side by side, and even back to back, and to turn themselves in bed by rolling one over the other.

The little cottage where the boys passed their childhood was of the sort known in Siam as "floating houses." They are one story buildings, moored on the river bank, and kept in place not by anchors, but by large poles on each side driven into the muddy bottom. They are built of teak boards or bamboo, roofed with *attap* leaves, and contain three or four rooms, of which the front one is a shop, besides a verandah that overlooks the river or canal. Here day by day, as the father plied his trade of catching fish or cleaned and sorted them for market, and the mother was selling wares in her little shop, the twin brothers amused themselves in the broad, cool verandah, watching their parents and aiding in such light labors as they were able to undertake. Sometimes they went fishing in the boat with their father; and like all Eastern children, they soon learned to swim, and spent much of their time in the water. One day, while they were thus engaged, Mr. Robert Hunter, a Scotch merchant residing in Bangkok, passed in his boat, and attracted by the perfect uniformity of the children's movements, he stopped to ascertain how they managed to keep thus closely side by side. One can imagine his amazement at the discovery of the cause; and from that day, which was some time during the year 1824, Mr. Hunter began concerting measures to get them off to Europe for exhibition. He spoke to the parents, to whom his plans seemed about as feasible as to send off their boys to another planet, and they at first would entertain no proposition on the subject. But Mr. H. continued to visit them from time to time, and by his genial nature soon won not only the hearts of the parents, but those of the boys themselves, till the latter became eager to set out on a tour over a world of which they heard such glowing accounts. Still, the parents held back, and all negotiations would probably have failed but for the opportune arrival, in the year 1829, of an American vessel commanded by Captain Coffin, who offering to give the parent as large bonus, and Mr. Hunter pledging an equal amount, the Twins were handed over to the foreigners, and sailed immediately for Europe and the United States before the parents had time to change their minds. They were tractable, intelligent, well behaved lads, who gave their new guardians no trouble, nor during the entire voyage expressed any desire to return to their native land. Since then their reputation has become world-wide. I saw them last in the fall of 1865, at the New England Agricultural Fair in Brattleboro', Vermont, where they were again exhibiting themselves, with two of their sons. The fathers were beginning to show marks of age, Eng especially, who looked five years older than his brother. They had nearly forgotten their native language, and in lieu of the deep emotion they had formerly evinced in speaking of their country, they seemed now to care very little about it, and wound up the conversation by saying nonchalantly, "America is our home now: we have no other."—*Lippincott's Magazine.*

The Royal Marriage and the Queen's Family.

London Correspondence of the New York Post.

The royal marriage is getting to be a theme of common conversation and newspaper comment. The Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Leopold and all the rest of them, except the Queen and Princess Beatrice, have repaired to St. Petersburg to witness the ceremony and bring back the happy pair. The republicans, though, and all those who find their exponent in Reynold's newspaper—all the followers of Bradlaugh and Odger—make this the occasion of all manner of flings at the "Fiddler Prince," declare that the marriage is the price paid by England for surrendering gradually her possessions in India, and point to the robbery of these "Imperial paupers and royal horse leeches." All radical journals print part of the annual civil list, as follows, and then inform the readers that it is but a mere trifle of what the working people are called upon to pay in pensions:

Princess Royal (Crown Princess of Prussia)	£128,000
Prince of Wales	400,000
Princess of Wales	100,000
Prince Alfred	105,000
Prince Arthur	50,000
Princess Alice (of Hesse)	7,000
Princess Helena (of Schleswig, etc)	42,000
Princess Louise (of Lorne)	12,000
Princess Mary (of Teck)	14,000
Princess Augusta (of Mecklenburg-Strelitz)	90,000
The Duchess of Cambridge	9[illegible],000
The Duke of Cambridge	276,000

One writer, whose pungency of phrase is something remarkable, declares that "next year Prince Leopold attains his majority, and the begging box will be rattled in Parliament for him; two years afterward a similarly unpleasant sound will be heard in behalf of Princess Beatrice, and heaven only knows when this system of royal begging will cease."

If this be foolish the Republicans certainly are not singular, for on the other hand I have within a week seen grave propositions on the part of certain municipal authorities, looking to the removal of cannon from the public parks and squares, which were captured at Alma and Inkerman, "in order that the bride may not be offended and outraged." Why not remove all the red-coated soldiers at once?

A Case for Hair Cutters.

From the Pall Mall Gazette.

Some years ago the passengers of a coach passing through a country town were alarmed to see a hair-dresser, pale as a ghost, run out of his shop with his scissors and a comb in his hands, and clamber to the top of the vehicle as it pursued its journey, uttering the most piercing shrieks of despair. When he had somewhat recovered his composure, he gave the following explanation of his conduct: He was, he said, engaged in cutting a customer's hair, and while thus employed became so absorbed in conversation that he forgot to control his operations, and, too late, found that he had produced a large bald patch on the head of the unconscious victim of his carelessness. Dreading the consequences when the fatal mistake should be discovered, he prolonged the sitting until the coach made its appearance, and then successfully made his escape, intending never to return to the scene of his professional disgrace. It is surprising that hair dressers, with all their chatter during the time they are at work, do not more frequently commit similar errors, and they will be awakened to the serious responsibilities of their position by a small debt action which came up before Sheriff Substitute Clark, in Glasgow, last Thursday, involving a question of no small importance to barbers generally. A lady sued a hair dresser for £12 damages for saving, as she alleged, while dressing her hair, shorn it too closely. As put by the pursuer's agent, the question for the sheriff substitute to decide is, if a barber is instructed to cut off, say, two inches from the length of a customer's hair, is he entitled to cut four? The case has been adjourned to allow evidence "to be led," and in the meantime barbers will be cautious, for if the Glasgow lady wins her case, others who feel the breezes blowing with unconfortable freshness about their heads on leaving the hair dressers' shops will no doubt claim compensation.

How to Manage Gas.

In an exchange we find the following interesting information in regard to the economical management of gas, which may be of interest to our readers. If a flame consumes eight feet per hour, giving the light of sixteen candles, and this should be reduced to six feet (three-fourths of eight) then instead of the light being equal to twelve candles, the theoretical proportion, it will only be equal to eight candles, causing a loss of thirty-six per cent. Should lastly, if the flame be reduced to one and one-fourth feet per hour, a small blue flame will be seen which gives no available light. If you have four two and one-half feet gas jets in your room, making a light equal to ten candles, throw the four into one, making a ten-foot burner, and you will have a light equal to twenty-eight candles.

A careful calculation shows that a burner consuming one and one-half feet, gives light of one candle; burner consuming three and one-half feet gives the light of six and one-half candles; burner consuming four and one-half feet gives light of ten candles; burner consuming five feet gives light of twelve, and one-half candles; burner consuming seven feet gives light of fifteen candles. If you want a small light save a big burner and turn it down, for gas coming through a large orifice gives more light than when forced through a small one. Light is also diminished by using globes, especially if of ground or painted glass, the latter destroying sixty per cent. of light.

A failure of Chinese labor is reported from Georgia. The Augusta *Constitutionalist* says: They do not appear to be a very great success as efficient laborers. It is supposed that they will not be kept in this vicinity much longer.

GOSSIP.

The ladies of Troy, New York, are going to organize a hen club. The papers of that city will now have something to crow over.

Prof. Proctor is in a bad way. The New York *Herald* pronounces his theory of the evolution of the solar system not demonstrable.

How glad the Siamese Twins ought to be to know that cutting them apart would have caused their death.

What becomes of all the lunch fiends in Ohio as fast as the saloons go down with the prevailing temperance epidemic?

It is said that three-pound oysters have been found near Tampa, Florida. That looks like Tampa-ring with the truth.

Mr. Comstock, the suppressor of obscene literature, is now visiting Chicago, and there is a very marked improvement in the character of the newspapers there.

One of the St. Louis papers published the Ten Commandments the other day, and a lively newspaper war ensued as to which of Shakespeare's plays the selection was made from.

The disposition to make Southern Kansas a cotton growing country is taking possession of the residents of that section.

A memorial from African gentlemen just read in Congress asks, among other things, that the government extend aid in building a rail road into the interior of Liberia. Now, how many more railroads will Uncle Sam be asked to construct?

The Michigan Grangers propose to establish market days in each county of the State, upon which certain kinds of grain or products shall be sold, and no other.

Flanagan, of Texas, like every other conscript father, has his panacea for the financial difficulty. He wants the government to advertise that it will buy every bale of cotton raised in the South the next twelvemonth, at a certain schedule of prices, and all will be well. Just so.

The triumph of liberty is not ephemeral. Wm. Shaffer, of Brooklyn, has just obtained a verdict of $5,000 against the Andes Insurance Company, for the burning of a painting entitled "The Triumph of Liberty."

The Minnesota press unanimously demands that the law of that State which permits a judge to seize an editor and cast him into jail for contempt by publication, be repealed.

A Missouri farmer drew all his money out of the bank during the late panic and put it nobody knows where. Then he died suddenly, and now his heirs are prospecting in all sorts of probable and improbable places.

The Egyptians have conceived a national motto, "it is Egypt whereon the Nile flows," which promises to be as talismanic as the German affection for the Rhine.

The Illinois Legislature has passed a bill giving up the dead bodies of unclaimed paupers and criminals in Chicago for dissection.

It will disgust a long line of pilgrims to Sinai to know that they have painted or climbed the wrong mountain. Dr. Bebe, the English traveler, reports that he has discovered the true Sinai near Akyaba, Arabia.

Some of the class who find "good in everything" smile benignly over the infinitesimal trichinæ out West, and suggest the appointment of microscopic inspectors of pork.

The Chinese are rapidly adopting the habits of European civilization. The Chinese government suppressed a newspaper in Hong Kong the other day.

Four daily meteorological bulletins are now issued in Europe. One in Copenhagen for Sweden, Norway and Denmark, and the others in England, France and Russia.

Pensioning the soldiers of the Mexican war would seem to be a proposition against which the statute of limitations might properly be pleaded.

Eight hundred sleigh-loads of wheat, amounting to 32,262 bushels, were brought into Red Wing, Minnesota, one day last week, indicating a good country for both wheat and grain.

There is at present more snow in the Sierra Nevada mountains than has been seen in many years, and the chance for still more is good.

Another deficiency of $50,000 has been discovered in Brooklyn. It really seems to do the people of the city of churches good to find out how much they have lost.

John Dog, of Massachusetts, has had his name changed by the Legislature of that State to John Kerr—which is a distinction without any difference, except perhaps as to the size of the animal.

Gen. John Tyler, son of ex-President Tyler, has been licensed as a preacher by a Methodist conference in Florida.

From Territorial Enterprize.

"A Perfect Angel"—"Of the Best Breed."

A young man who was lucky enough to clean up in Ophir, Consolidated Virginia, and other stocks, the snug little sum of 30,000, with which he hastened home to his native Buckeye State, writes to a friend in this city to say that fortune still smiles upon him. He has achieved a handsome young bride, and with her a farm of 300 acres, not two miles from his own old roof-tree. His bride is the only daughter of a rich old granger—an only man of the sod, worth bushels of money. As our young friend went home "well heeled," and, moreover, is as fine a lad as ever stepped in shoe leather, there was, of course, no "cruel parient" to distract the course of true love in this instance—everything was lovely with the old man.

Our child of fortune sends a funny account of his interview with the old gent when he came to ask the hand of his daughter in marriage. When the words were spoken the affair progressed as follows:

Farmer Hodge—Take't, my boy—take't. She'll make you a good wife—but you know that. You'll find that lower medder'8 can three and a half tons to the acre, year with year. The old orchard don't bear as it used to do, but the new one is in full bearing. The fences are all in good—

Young Washoe—I shall never cease to love and cherish your daugh—

Farmer Hodge—Fences all in splendid order all around the farm, and I believe there is not a more convenient barn in the—

Young Washoe—And I believe she loves me, God bless her! as she loves her—

Farmer Hodge—The ten cows, the eight calves, and the—

Young Washoe—If she is not made the happiest wife in all the State of—

Farmer Hodge—Well and have calves in the spring, and the 150 sheep you will find—

Young Washoe—She is a perfect angel.

Farmer Hodge—O' the best breed.

Young Washoe—That ever lived.

Farmer Hodge—And will shear more wool—

Young Washoe—Say no more; say no more. (And here Farmer H dge and Young Washoe rushed into each other's arms and embraced for the space of five minutes.)

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FOUR GOOD STORIES!

We take pleasure in announcing that by a special arrangement, just completed, we shall, during the present month, begin the publication of

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These stories all have a moral which the wicked may read, and should be used everywhere.

☞ Specimen Copies free.

☞ The Chinese Government is now acting on the Coolie question with a spirit and purpose of enlightened humanity which is worthy of the imitation of nations professing to be more highly refined and civilized. It makes it a condition of concluding a commercial treaty with Peru, that the latter government shall declare all Coolie contracts null and void, and the further importation of coolies shall cease.

☞ The BLADE will shortly begin a series of Temperance Stories written especially for its columns by a gentleman well-known to its readers. They will be short, pungent, and to the point, and are calculated to do great good for the cause.

☞ Senator CHANDLER has brought suit against the Detroit *Free Press* for libel, claiming $100,000 damages. The alleged libel is in a special dispatch from Washington, February 20th, charging CHANDLER with intoxication and disgraceful conduct in the Senate Chamber.

☞ SEND IN YOUR NAME and secure the BLADE, and with it the new temperance stories written for its columns by GEORGE WAINWRIGHT Esq. These stories, founded on fact, are the strongest arguments that can be used for the suppression of intemperance, and in them its evils are portrayed with a life-like and faithful pencil.

☞ Hangman FOOTE has been engaged in three affairs of honor, and has never been hurt yet. And he never hurt anybody, either. He takes care to challenge only those who shoot as wildly as he does.

☞ THE AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL is the best agricultural paper published for the price, and ought to be in every farmer's family. Send your address for a specimen copy

☞ BRIDGET CAMPBELL, of Chicago, would have lived to an old age but for her inordinate love of tobacco. She went out, aged 108, a victim of the weed. This is a warning to chewers and smokers. Let them stop at 107.

The question, "Is water intoxicating?" is to be submitted to the editor of the Louisville *Courier-Journal* for solution.—*Pittsburgh Commercial.*

The Louisville *Courier-Journal* man don't KNOW. He never drank any of it.

☞ BEGIN A LIBRARY by sending with your subscription an order for some of the choice standard works contained in our book offer. We can and will furnish books from one-third to one-half cheaper than they can be procured in any other way.

☞ What has become of ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS, of Georgia, since ELLIOTT, the "Nigger" Congressman, went through him?

THE WEEK.

The question regarding the great Centennial Exposition of 1876 now seems to hinge upon whether it shall be a National or an International affair. This question is having a sharp discussion in the House of Representatives the bill making provision for the celebration having been before that body during the past week. The President has sent to Congress the preliminary report of the Centennial Commissioners, and with it a brief message in which he urges the importance of giving the Centennial a marked international character, and in which he does not request an appropriation of public money, nevertheless intimates the importance of such action in order that the affair may be all that our national pride would have it.—The House last week, by a vote of 129 to 131 refused to pass the bill providing for the free transportation of public document through the mails and the free exchange of newspapers, and free transmission of papers in the county where published. It is probable that a modified bill may be passed restoring the two last named features. One of the most singular things during the debate, was a violent attack on newspapers made by BUTLER (Mass.) in which he took occasion to allude to the attacks made by newspapers on Congressmen. He claimed for himself a perfect imperviousness to such attacks, hence the speech can hardly be construed into a personal defence—Speaking of BUTLER, it is noticeable that he has just won another victory over his foes, having secured the appointment of W. A. SIMMONS as Collector of Customs at Boston, Mass., both BOUTWELL and SUMNER having taken strong ground against his confirmation.—Gov. SHEPHERD has submitted a lengthy reply to the Congressional committee appointed to investigate the affairs of the District of Columbia, notwithstanding which fact the Committee will probably prefer formal charges.

The New York German and Irish Communists are reported as numbering now about 300 persons, and they are said to be about uniting with the French. One of their leaders says they want not merely work for themselves, but the abolition of high salaries and monopolies. —The Congregational Churches of New York and Brooklyn are about calling a conference to decide certain questions of polity and discipline.—Reports of the autopsy on the bodies of the Siamese twins show that the livers and other vital organs were much more closely united than was previously supposed, and that any attempt to separate them would probably have resulted in death.—President BAEZ, of San Domingo, was arrested in Brooklyn on Saturday on a warrant sworn out by DAVID HATCH, of Connecticut. His bail was fixed at $25,000.

The temperance movement is spreading widely and has developed demonstrations at New York, Brooklyn, Jersey City, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and other prominent points. We give elsewhere a synopsis showing the present status of the movement and the results already accomplished.

British advices regarding the Ashantee expedition are somewhat contradictory, and latest reports seem to indicate that the English troops are in great danger.—The members of the British Royal Geographical Society concede the great probability of Dr. LIVINGSTONE'S death, and the Queen has granted a pension of $1,000 per annum to his children. —The long drawn trial of the TICHBORNE claimant after one hundred and eighty days of legal controversy, has resulted in his conviction and sentence to fourteen years imprisonment. His counsel will move for a new trial.

Gen SICKLES, our late Minister to Spain, took leave of President SERRANO on the 24th ult.—In Cuba the strictest measures are being taken to promote conscription.—Reports from other foreign countries will be found in our News Summary.

THE EAST AND THE WEST.

We would by all means keep a strong check on all tendencies to sectional prejudices and antagonisms. When party demagogues attempt to make them out of their own fancies, in order to delude the people, they should be indignantly stamped out of being. The country has had a rather sad and bitter experience on account of the sectional feeling between the *North* and the *South*. But this was rather the contest between three hundred thousand owners of human flesh, claiming to be the South, arraying themselves against the enlightened sentiment of the whole country, that of their own section included. Later, a few Democratic political leaders attempted to fan up a flame of sectional feeling between the *East* and the *West*. There was too much good sense in both sections for the attempt to be other than abortive. What we have to say, therefore, under the caption of this article, is prompted by nothing which partakes of a sectional or demagogical character. We believe there need be no real antagonism of sections on any subject whatever.

While premising and admitting all this the discussions in Congress and elsewhere, on financial and other questions show that the West does not altogether receive fair play at the hands of the East. The East clamored for the removal of the tax upon incomes, which effected only those most able to shirk other taxes, the holders of untaxed bonds and those most able to pay, and received the largest protection from the Government, and that tax was removed. Thus a most important branch of revenue was cut off. Then they clamored for the tax on railway passes to be taken off, until it was done. The Eastern managers of Western railroads, however, did not reduce the fares which they had advanced beyond legal rates on the plea of collecting the tax from the travellers. Thus, the government lost the benefit of the tax, and railroad monopolists scooped in so much clear gain. From the railroad tariffs, no one could learn that the tax was not yet in existence.

The great need of the West is capital, at a rate of interest its industry can bear. But the East clamors for contraction of currency and for specie payments, well-knowing that it is the western manufacturer, merchant and farmer who must be injured thereby. The monopolists of the East manage to send their most experienced men to Congress; to get, by virtue of their financial reputations, the most influential places on the committees in charge of the finances of the country. Thus the money-lenders and monopolists of the East secure their advantages, and we at the West feel the pressure as too great to be longer borne with patience.

The clamor for free trade comes chiefly from the East. The reason is obvious. The importing interest at the East is very strong in numbers and wealth. A portion of the Eastern establishments, made wealthy by special tariff legislation for their benefit, now feel able to weather the gales of competition in any event. The manufactures of the West are thrifty, vigorous and flourishing, but not yet of mature growth or strength. Unfriendly legislation at this juncture by tinkering the tariff, would kill off at least a portion of them. Therefore, we have a strong talk of taking off *ad valorem* duties, altogether. The east has got rich on *ad valorem* duties, and now would snatch the morsel from the lips of the West just as it is about to taste it.

A visitor stepping into one of our Toledo jobbing houses, will be astonished to see the number and excellence of the woolen and other cloths made in the factories of the West. From Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and even in far off Wisconsin, we find the contributions of their capital and skill. If the selfish monopolist of the East can continue to cripple them, they think their interests will be served.

Eastern jobbers, importers, brokers and custom officers all make it difficult for our Western importers to get goods from Europe direct to Western ports without detention for examination and fixing of duties. The customs ports of the West and the cities of the West are belittled in the statistics of customs receipts, by the grab-all policy of the East. This is done to compel the West to do all its importing through the Eastern cities, paying them tribute as they pass. This is all unfair.

We state facts, and will only now add this word of comment: The West must take care of itself. There are many magnanimous and liberal people at the East who will not join in any policy of injustice. But we must watch and guard against the invasions of hostile and selfish monopolists. They who would be free themselves must strike the blow. This is as true in those sffuering financial oppression as in any other case.

THE SITUATION OF CUBA.

Since the removal of CASTELAR as the executive head of the Spanish Government, the political situation of Cuba is in a more disorganized and unhappy condition than before. The vacilating policy of SERANO has given the insurgents new life, and if any faith can be placed upon the meagre telegraphic reports which reach us, Manzanillo is surrounded by four thousand troops and its surrender calculated upon as a certainty. This will give great strength to the insurrection in the Eastern Department of Cuba, while the reported successful raid of an insurgent band into the Trinidad valley is of still greater significance, demonstrating that the districts to the westward from which they were driven some years since are being re-occupied by them. This has long been the aim of the Cuban leaders, and their recent victories have given them renewed hope of soon receiving recognition as belligerents from the leading nations of the world. In the present unhappy situation of Spain, she can scarce maintain her own national existence, much less cope successfully with rebellion in her colonies. And yet such is the demoralization of the Cubans, and so unfitted are they for self-government, that even should they achieve their independence from the mother country, their government, whether in the form of a republic, a dictatorship or a monarchy, will scarcely be an improvement upon the present one, until her masses become more elevated and enlightened.

LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY.

The March number of LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY has made its appearance from the press, and a gradual change in the date of publication indicates that it will shortly appear simultaneously with the other magazines now before the public. The attractions of the present number are fully equal to any of its predecessors, since it contains the conclusion of "John Duncan's Widow," the first part of a new story entitled "How the Train was Saved," and the usual variety of sprightly stories, sketches and poems. We append the table of contents:

I. John Duncan's Widow—(Concluded)—D. R. Locke.
II. Confessions of an Amateur Burglar—Hugh R. Elton.
III. Amy Allen—E. O. B.
IV. Statistics of Human Life.
V. How the Train was Saved—(Part I.)—E. G. Marne.
VI. The Daughter of Coleridge—Rosa L. Segur.
VII. Sharks and other Torments—Anon.
VIII. A Flight from the Inquisition.
XI. Easter Lilies—Amalie La Forge.
X. Collective Instinct.
XI. Arnold Bray—O. C. Applegate.
XII. In charge of Treasure—English Magazine.
XIII. Evening—Read Spencer.
XIV. Grievous Words—Mrs. J. G. Barnett.
XV. My Only Love—Frederick Locker.
XVI. Notes and Comments—By the Editor.

☞ SEND US THE NAMES of your friends who do not take the BLADE, but who ought to be subscribers. We have five thousand specimen copies of the BLADE for general distribution.

The Epizootic Attacking Men.

The Des Moines (Iowa) *Register* reports that a singular and fatal disease, in many of its symptoms not unlike the epizootic that was so severe among horses last year, is now prevailing in the vicinity of Hartford, Warren county, that State. The person attacked, it says, has fever, excessive nasal discharge, violent coughing, and cold extremities. Several deaths have already occurred, and there is a large number of families afflicted, with greater or less violence, while the physicians are unable to find any successful treatment for the decease or to cassify it. Considerable alarm is felt, and some families are preparing to move away until the epidemic subsides.

NEEDS OF THE WEST.

In another column of this paper a Western farmer gives his views on the needs of the farming communities at the West. It will be discerned by the reader that many farmers are well aware of the real causes of their present trouble. Our correspondent shows that the policy of contracting the currency pinches the farming interest beyond all endurance. We are also glad to see that he properly appreciates the evils resulting from the rapacity of the Shylocks who prey upon the misfortunes of their neighbors, and that he also condemns the eagerness with which farmers turn into paper shavers and money lenders, thus diverting their means and energies from their legitimate occupation.

In this connection we may remind the reader that the greed of farmers to own more land than they can till and take care of has led many to buy beyond their means, and thus to put in jeopardy their previous accumulations, in the event of unprosperous years. This makes an unnatural demand for money and lifts rates of interest beyond the ability of industry and production of the country to carry successfully. Really it is the inflation of business of all kinds, beyond the reasonable demands of the community, that has done so much harm, rather than any inflation of currency which has occurred.

Our correspondent, we think, overstates the difficulties in the way of farmers aiding by their means the establishment of manufactures. The fact stated by him that many farmers become money lenders shows that a portion of them have a surplus. All are not in debt. Let those who are prosperous be content with land enough for present use, and by prudent investments in manufacturing establishments, help to diversify the occupations of the community and attract a population to make home markets for produce, and enhance the value of the lands they already have.

Capitalists must have more than a welcome in words in order to take risks in establishing new enterprises. Our Western friend expresses a fear of being imposed on. Of course, there are unprincipled adventurers who must be guarded against. For protection against these the farmers must keep their eyes open. In all these things, as in every thing else, care and judgment must be used. There are, however, men capable, worthy to be trusted, and possessed of means, who can be brought from the East to the West, whenever they can be properly aided and supported. Such men must be sought out. We would not advise farmers to go into business they do not understand, but to aid, prudently and substantially the men who do know how to make manufactures successful. Such men are in training in the East and in the older countries of the world.

They can help the West and themselves, too, under fair conditions. In order to do this somebody must be trusted. If farmers give way to an unreasoning distrust they must remain without the benefits they feel they could derive from manufactures.

Nor is it necessary for farmers to put all their eggs into one basket. Perhaps it may not be well to expect, at first, very large direct returns from such investments. They should look for their returns rather in the ultimate and indirect benefits accruing, than from semi-yearly dividends. Let every one do what he can afford, and all will reap richer benefits than they can now anticipate.

Much depends on a wise adaptation of the business to the demands of the country. At one place a forge or foundry, or furnace, would be the right thing. At another a shoe factory, at another a tannery. We need not specify all the handicrafts that might flourish in proper localities. But the farmers can not too soon learn that in this direction they must, turn their thoughts, and direct their investments.

The New Utah Bill.

The bill reported by Representative McKee, from the Committee on Territories, concerning the execution of the laws in Utah, gives the authority to the United States Marshal to appoint deputies in each Judicial District of that Territory. The United States Attorney is also authorized to appoint assistants. It is made their duty to attend all courts. Only male citizens of the United States over 21 years of age, and for six months residents of the Territory, shall be competent to serve as grand or petit jurors, their names to be drawn from a box, a certain number of them being written on slips of paper. In all prosecutions for bigamy, polygamy, or adultery, it shall not be necessary to prove the first or subsequent marriage by registration or certificate thereof, or other recorded evidence, but the same may be proved by such evidence as is admissable to prove a marriage in civil cases; and proof of cohabitation by the accused with more than one woman as husband and wife, his declaration or admission that such women are his wives, and his recognizing, acknowledging, introducing, treating or deporting himself toward them as such, shall be admissable as evidence. Any woman now or hereafter holding the relation of spouse or consort, and not that of lawful wife to any man who at the time cohabits with another woman as his wife, spouse, or consort, may file her petition asking to be discharged from such relation. She may, upon due hearing, adjudge and decree her to be discharged and free from such relation, and give her possession and control of her minor children, together with such portion of the estate and property of the man for the support of herself and children. The bill provides that nothing in this section shall be construed as repealing, changing, or annulling the existing laws against polygamy; and that Probate Courts shall have jurisdiction only in cases of wills and estate decedents, but shall not exercise any other civil, or criminal, or equity jurisdiction whatever. The District Courts shall have exclusive original jurisdiction in all actions for divorce or alimony, and in all chancery cases or proceedings. All Courts, except the Supreme, District, and Probate, and Justices' Courts are abolished. The last section disapproves the various acts passed in the Legislative Assembly, including the ordinance incorporating the Church of Jesus Christ, of Latter-day Saints; an act regulating the mode of procedure in the Courts of Utah; the act conferring upon women the elective franchise; an act for the organization of the militia of the Territory; an act presenting the duties of select-men and the duties of county courts; an act regulating the mode of procedure in criminal cases, an act regulating the elections; an act concerning the property rights of married persons; also, all acts providing for election by the Legislature of Auditor, Treasurer, Surveyor-General and Wardens of the Penitentiary, as far as said acts provide for the election of said officers by the Legislative Assembly; and all said officers shall be appointed by the Governor of the Territory, and subject to removal by him. The bill was ordered printed, and recommitted to the Committee.

How the Temperance War Goes.

The progress of the Temperance War may be summarized as follows:

New York.—Dio Lewis at New York. A fee of 25 cents was charged to his lecture on the 28th, and his audience was not large. He reported the progress of the movement at the west. He was afraid of a division between the political men or prohibitionists, and the moral suasion men. He advised action rather than talk. One of the active men of the meeting said the clergy of New York could not be united in the onset on the saloons, as many of them were not total abstainers. At the Fulton street prayer meeting the temperance cause was the theme. The owner of the Houston street Varieties Theatre offers his room to the Temperance women free of charge, furnishing gas and orchestra, and engaging to keep order.

Philadelphia.—The Temperance women made a demonstration on the 28th, but were not admitted to any saloons. Meetings were held in houses near by. An immense meeting was held at Wood's Museum on Sunday afternoon, and another at the corner of 9th and Spring Garden streets. Other meetings will follow this week.

Chicago.—Prayers were offered and hymns sung at a saloon under the Galt House, and at one or two other drinking places. No visible effect produced.

Columbus, O.—On Sunday prayer-meetings were held. A mass temperance meeting is to be held soon, to be addressed by Gov. Dennison and other prominent gentlemen.

Oxford, O.—A liquor seller named Brandebery surrendered on the 28th and poured his liquor into the street. Great rejoicing in consequence.

Chillicothe, O.—The druggists have signed the pledge.

Lebanon, O.—The city bells were rung as the ladies of Morrow marched to the Court House to the hearing of their injunction case.

Jeffersonville, Ind.—The war on the part of the women is unabated. No saloons closed, but a strong temperance sentiment formed. The fund of the Alliance to prosecute has reached $15,000.

San Francisco, Cal.—The ladies of the Methodist Churches announce the opening of the crusade at Chamberlains's saloon, the principal resort of the stock brokers.

Lavanna, Brown Co., O.—The crusaders are laboring with two saloons. The temperance people have been threatened with the burning of their property.

Cumberland, Md.—Postal cards have been sent to the saloon-keepers asking them to close up.

Dayton, O.—The drug stores generally sign the pledge, but no saloons closed. The saloon men are defiant.

Coshocton, O.—Five of the seven druggists have signed the pledge presented to them. One saloonist emptied his stock yesterday.

New Bremen, O.—1,500 population, and has eighteen saloons. Crusaders will be organized before long.

Troy, O.—First visits made on Thursday afternoon.

London, O.—A saloonist threw beer upon the ladies holding service in the tabernacle before his door.

Maysville, O.—Crusaders are perservering against all hindrances. One dealer has promised to quit, and the druggists have all signed.

College, Corner, O.—Fifty ladies in the League. No surrenders yet.

North Lewisburg, O.—The besiegers encamped before the place of one firm, and he has disappeared from the town.

Middletown, O.—A large meeting was addressed last night by Mother Stewart and C. M. Nichols, of Springfield.

Gallipolis, O.—One retailer surrendered yesterday, and he and his wife have signed the pledge.

Berea, O.—Fifty Leaguers began their work yesterday, and were encouraged to believe they had made some impression.

Delaware, O.—Physicians have all signed a pledge to prescribe liquor only in extreme cases.

Cambridge, O.—One hundred ladies met yesterday and organized a League.

Lancaster, O.—All but three of the holders of property rented to liquor sellers have agreed not to rent for that purpose after April 1.

Sandusky, O.—Preparations in progress.

Crestline, O.—Mass-meeting will be held on Monday P. M.

The following additional localities where the crusade is afoot in Indiana are named: North Nerson, Valparaiso, Logansport, Bloomington, Goshen. At Indianapolis another meeting will be held next Tuesday.

Ann Arbor, Mich.—First notes of the movement were sounded on Thursday.

Jackson, Mich.—Women have thus far been holding meetings in the churches only.

Denver, Colorado.—First gun fired on Thursday.

Sioux City, Iowa—Services held at saloons on Wednesday and Thursday.

Yankton, D. T.—Saloonists all notified that they will be visited next Monday.

Muscatine, Iowa—League organized last Wednesday night.

At Jerseyville, Kankakee, Moline, and Champagne, Ills., leagues are either organized or organizing, and intense interest in the movement is manifested.

Akron, March 2.—The several temperance organizations met at Temperance Hall Saturday evening and decided to inaugurate the women's anti-whisky crusade in this city.

Warren, O., Feb. 28.—The temperance war commenced in this city to-day. The ladies are circulating a paper with a long roll of names, praying that the Adair law remain unchanged. The prospects are of a lively temperance movement.

Berea, March 2—11:30 A. M.—The war against the saloons is now under full headway and the interest manifested is intense. The ladies were at the depot in strong force on Saturday, and were praying and singing with devotion. On Saturday the saloons were all found closed, and curb-stone prayer meetings are the order, and the women are bravely accepting the situation. To-day the grand movement is to be made.

DELAWARE, O., March 2.—Sunday was observed as a grand gala day of temperance. Services on the subject were held in all the churches and a mass Sunday School temperance meeting in the William Street Church last evening. There was a mass meeting at which a number of saloon-keepers were present last evening in the same place. None of the twenty-three saloon keepers have yet signed the pledge; all doctors have and all but one druggist. There was a prayer meeting at the depot yesterday afternoon.

BEREA, March 1.—To-day the clergymen preached discourses with special reference to the revival, that were very eloquent and fervid appeals for God's help and approbation, meeting with a hearty response from the audience. In the afternoon a fair-sized audience assembled to hear Prof. Thompson, who gave a very carefully prepared discourse setting forth the evils of intemperance. The great audience that gathered in the evening at the Methodist Church, filling it to its utmost capacity, was an eloquent expression of the popularity that the movement has attained. The meeting was conducted by Rev. Pond. The interest manifested was intense, and the proceedings were of the most impressive character, and will have a marked effect in creating confidence in the work.

The saloon prayer meetings will be resumed in the morning.

Demonstrations by the temperance crusaders were made in Philadelphia on the 28th, but the women were not admitted to any saloons, and the police have been instructed to keep the sidewalks clear. The saloons visited were in full blast, but the women held a meeting in a house in the vicinity, and attracted a crowd by singing and praying. The saloons soon closed. Wood's Museum is engaged for a temperance meeting.

The temperance war has been started at Oberlin, Akron, Warren, and other towns in Northern Ohio, but as yet has made but slight progress.

Postal cards were sent through the Postoffice on Saturday to all the retail liquor dealers in Cumberland, Md., requesting them to desist from the sale of liquor before Wednesday, the 4th inst., at a women's prayer meeting would be held in front of their premises.

An immense meeting was held Sunday in Wood's Museum, New York, Mrs. Dr. French said women would not enter a saloon, but would use moral suasion with the rum sellers. They will not block sidewalks, or do anything against the law. It was necessary to rise en masse. She called upon the Mayor to protect the women in this pious duty. In the evening there was another meeting held, at which a number signed the pledge. Other meetings will be held during the week.

At Delaware, Ohio, the temperance excitement has considerably increased. The ladies on forming the procession marched to the drug store of Hunter & Reynolds, who, on a reading of the pledge, immediately affixed their signatures. After singing "All had the power of Jesus' name" and Mrs. Lane offering a prayer, they repaired to the drug store of Snodgrass' Sons, who refused to sign the pledge until the ladies would procure an affidavit from the physicians of the town to the effect that they would prescribe nothing requiring the use of wine, brandy or other malt liquors. The pledge reads that no intoxicating or malt liquors be used, but pure alcohol. After singing several hymns and offering prayer the band repaired to the drug store of N. U. Starr & H. Cornell, but with no better success than the second. The attack will be renewed and on the saloons in addition.

At Mount Vernon, O., Feb. 24, at the usual hour the women met at the church for prayers, after which they divided into two battalions and marched. They called at all of the saloons which have not closed and sang and prayed in the most earnest manner, but no further surrenders have been made, and the cause seems to lag. The women say they will visit, sing and pray until the last whisky mill closes out. The city council passed a sweeping whisky ordinance last night, and in ten days all offenders will be brought up before the Mayor.

At San Francisco, Feb 28, the women connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church resolved to inaugurate a praying crusade, and will open the campaign at Chamberlain's saloon, on California street, the place of resort of the stock brokers.

A case is pending in the Butler county, (Ohio) Courts in which an Oxford liquor seller prays that the temperance women be enjoined from praying in front of his saloon.

No new developments in the temperance movement in Chicago, except that the notices received by the saloon keepers of an intended visit of prayer crusaders proved to be, as was generally supposed, bogus, although the saloons which obtained the gratuitous advertising, which the notices were, were visited only by thirsty crowds of men, no prayer band making an appearance at any place.

At a meeting in St. Louis of the Temperance League, it was decided to hold a series of temperance meetings in that city, to commence next week. The movement, as determined upon, does not contemplate visiting saloons, as has been done in Ohio and elsewhere.

At Philadelphia, Feb 26, the Roman Catholic Total Abstinence Union of that city, had a grand demonstration at the Academy of Music. The building was crowded, and a large number of clergy and laymen, together with many Protestants, were on the stage. The exercises consisted of addresses, music, and reading of encouraging letters from Bishops throughout the country.

All the saloons of Little Rock, Ark., received postal cards, on the 27th, announcing that unless they closed by the first of March a committee of ladies would visit and pray in each.

The New York State Temperance Convention, on the 25th, passed resolutions requesting the legislature to pass a local prohibition law; urging the friends of temperance in the State to support all legislation in the interest of temperance, particularly a Constitutional amendmend which shall prohibit the importation, manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors; bidding the noble women of the West God speed in their crusade against rum; welcoming such a movement in that State; and congratulating the Grangers who have endorsed the same.

Senator Buecke introduced in the Missouri State Senate on the 25th a bill to protect peaceable citizens from imposition by religious or temperance fanaticism. It makes praying, singing, preaching or swearing on or contiguous to any premises, without the consent of the owner, a misdemeanor punishable by a fine.

The Women's Temperance movement was inaugurated in a small way in Chicago by a single old lady, who went from one saloon to another on two streets on the West Side, where saloons are most numerous, and after politely informing the proprietor or bar-keeper that she was about to pray for him, knelt in one corner and silently offered up her supplications. In the North Division a number of saloon-keepers have been served with printed circulars from the Bureau of Temperance Lodge No. 3, and signed "Mrs. L. A. Ballentine, Secretary," announcing that an association of ladies are bound together by a solemn covenant to close every saloon and hell hole in Chicago, and will visit each saloon with prayer and singing in furtherance of this object.

In addition to the printed notices to saloon-keepers in the North Division, a large number of the saloons on the South Side, including several of the largest and most fashionable, have received postal cards advising them of the pending visit to the prayer band, but the impression is that many of these notices are either the work of practical jokers or are intended for an advertisement.

A special from Piqua, Ohio, says the praying women on entering the saloon in the City Hotel, Tuesday evening, found the barkeeper, D. Sullwell, disrobing, and left. The men standing by told the facts on the street, and a crowd gathered in front of the hotel and gave Sullwell an hour to leave. The saloon keepers came to his defense, and the crowd on the street grew larger, and there was danger of a riot.

As preliminary to the Temperance Crusade promised on Saturday next, in Washington, D. C., notices similar to the following have been served on several restaurant keepers: "We earnestly entreat you, for the sake of your own spiritual welfare, and for the preservation from ruin of our husbands and sons, that you abandon the immoral and wicked business of selling intoxicating liquors. We will be at your place of business to pray with you next Saturday. Come with us, and we will do you good. And may God have mercy on your soul. By order of the Committee."

It appears that the ladies' Temperance movement in New York will discourage praying and singing in front of liquor saloons, when they fear would lead to violent demonstrations, but instead will quietly circulate a pledge against the use, sale, or manufacture of any intoxicating drink, taking this especially to saloon-keepers, and men who lease their buildings for the sale of liquor. No visits will be made to fashionable club houses, but the officers will be met elsewhere and urged to banish liquor from the establishments.

The President sent to the house a message relating to timber culture.

On the 25th, in the Equity Court Judge Wylie decided the case of Mrs. Gaines against Caleb Cushing, continuing the injunction in force, and directing the title papers to remain in the Land Office for the present.

Mrs. Gen. Gaines' friends assert that she will appeal to Congress for aid to enforce the decrees of the courts giving her possession of her property in Louisiana.

A Washington dispatch says that a letter from New Orleans states that Judge Durrell has forwarded his resignation to a trusted friend, to be tendered in the event of the Judiciary Committee of the House reporting articles of impeachment.

Nearly 200 ladies, of high social standing, in Jersey City, met Thursday and organized a Woman's Temperance League. They are not connected with the ladies, praying band that visit saloons. The plan is to district the city, visit families and urge men, women and chidren to sign the total abstinence pledge.

☞ The Remington Sewing Machine Co. of Ilion, N. Y., want Agents in every county in the United States. We can say from actual knowledge that the Remington is a first class A 1 machine, and that the Remingtons are honorable, liberal, generous men, with whom it is a pleasure to do business. For particulars address Remington S. M. Co., Ilion, N. Y., and secure a profitable and pleasant calling.

Interesting to Invalid Ladies.

HARLEMVILLE, Columbia Co., N. Y., July 8, 1873.

R. V. PIERCE, M. D.:

DEAR SIR:—Your favor is just received. I intended to have written to you several weeks since, concerning the improvement of my health, which is now very apparent. I have used one bottle of Favorite Prescription with the best results, although I will admit I was somewhat discouraged after its use (for a short time only.) I took it under very disadvantageous circumstances—having the supervision of the house, and during the season of "house cleaning" I was obliged, through the incompetency of help, to do more than I ought, and, of course, suffered dreadfully, lifted when I ought not to have raised my hand, and did all I could to bring "order out of chaos,"—but upon laying aside all cares and continuing the remedy, I find after using less than one bottle to be so much benefitted that I have discontinued the use, with no return of the symptoms of which I wrote you. I have suffered terribly, and what added to my distress was the consciousness of not procuring relief from ordinary sources; at times it seemed about impossible to stand, so great was the distress. All of those severe neuralgic pains have disappeared, they were so bad at times I could hardly walk without some external pressure. They seem to have left me like magic, suddenly, and have had no return; all other symptoms have been removed. The severe weakness and faintness have disappeared, and I can go up stairs with comparative ease now. I would have informed you ere this of my improvement, for I appreciated it, but I was fearful it was only transient benefit I was receiving, but I think sufficient time has elapsed to consider the beneficial results permanent. Accept of my wishes for your future success and your kindness in advising me.

Very truly,
MRS. M. NETTIE SNYDER.

Whatever you sell in the market or store it is the brains you sell. Years of thought and months of experience were expended upon the New Elastic Truss before it was introduced to the public. This Truss gives immediate relief from Rupture; is worn night and day with comfort. It retains the rapture absolutely and is not removed during the short time necessary to cure Hernia. Sent by mail everywhere at moderate cost, and full descriptive circulars furnished free on application, by the Elastic Truss Co., 683 Broadway, N. Y. City.

Fourteenth Annual Statement

OF THE

EQUITABLE

LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,

120 BROADWAY,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1873.

Net cash assets, Jan. 1, 1873.....		$18,405,953 16
RECEIPTS.		
Premiums.....	$ 8,541,694 91	
Interest and rents.	1,258,485 64	
Gain on investments and balance of profit and loss account ...	38,761 45	
	—	9,838,942 01
		28,244,895 17
DISBURSEMENTS.		
Claims by death and matured endowments	2,106,958 72	
Dividends, surrender values and annuities.....	2,969,570 22	
Dividend on capital.....	8,050 00	
Reinsurance and commuted commissions.....	181,017 13	
Commissions.....	534,142 16	
Expenses and taxes	709,449 78	
	—	6,606,068 01
		21,644,827 16
ASSETS.		
Bonds and mortgages.....	14,837,062 50	
Real estate.....	2,904 916 96	
Stocks created by the laws of the United States & the State of New York.....	1,805,399 51	
Stocks of other States.....	30,681 02	
Cash on hand, in bank, or in other depositories on interest.....	1,679,878 82	
Loans secured by collaterals.....	379,918 55	
	—	21,644,827 16
Interest and rents due and accrued	188,720 77	
Premiums due and in transit (less cost of collection)	164,836 60	
Deferred semi-annual and quarterly premiums for the year (less the cost of collection)	679,666 06	
Due from agents..	31,880 25	
Furniture, fixtures &c.....	69,298 67	
	—	1,834,401 69
Total assets Dec. 31, 1873.....		$23,878,418 85
New business in 1873, 13,401 policies, assuring.....		50,452,578 00

We hereby certify that we have examined the above account, and have found the same correct.

W. H. HALSTEAD,
THEODORE WESTON, } Auditors.

Total liabilities, including reserve for reinsurance of existing policies $20,068,445 08
Capital stock 100,000 00
Surplus over legal reserve..... 2,769,883 87

The valuation of policies outstanding has been made on the legal standard of the State of New York.

G. W. PHILLIPS,
J. G. VAN CISE, } Actuaries.

President,
WILLIAM C. ALEXANDER.
Vice-Presidents,
HENRY S. HYDE, JAMES W. ALEXANDER.
Secretaries,
SAMUEL BABCOCK, WILLIAM ALEXANDER.
Actuary,
GEO. W. LAMBE, M. D. ADOLPH LAMBERT, M. D.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

William C. Alexander	George S. Bowdoin
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John J. Donaldson	John Sloane
C. Ruxton Field	Thomas F. Smith
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Dudley S. Gregory	Henry A. Torbell
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Parker H. Kin	Alex. on Track
James M. Halstead	George B. Upton
E. J. Hawley	William Walter
Samuel Holmes	Wm. Whitewright, Jr.
Henry A. Hurlbut	Benjamin Winthrop
Henry B. Hyde	Henry Young
Robert L. Kenn

The Nasby Letters.

The Temperance Movement Strikes the Cross-Road—What Effect it Had Upon Bascom.

CONFEDRIT X ROADS,
(Wich is in the State uv Kentucky,)
Feb. 28, 1874.

When I opened my northern papers and red uv the prayin movement by the wimmin uv Ohio and Injiana, I sed to myself "The Cross-Roads is bound to ketch it." There aint no trouble agoin but wat it lites onto the Cross Roads. Misforchoon has markt the Cross-Roads for its own.

And last Monday Bascom got a postal card on wich it wuz stated that on the Friday followin a delegashen uv ladies from New Boston, a manufakturin village started by a lot uv Yankees over about ten miles from here, where they dont sell no spirits, wood visit the Cross-Roads and try the efficacy uv prayer onto Bascom, to see ef they cood not convert him to stop his sole-destroyin, demoralyzin bizness. Ez Bascom red the postal card (or rather ez I red it for him) he wuz a picter to look upon. His knees knockt together and his face turned a ghastly pale, and his hand trembled so that it wuz with difficulty that he cood raise a glass uv likker to his lips.

"My sole-destroyin bizness!" said he, "my bizness sole-destroyin! Good Heavens, wat next?"

"My time is about up, I guess," remarkt Deekin Pogram. "I hev seen strange things in my life-time, but when I am not allowed to take my regler drinks, it is time I wuz a goin hence."

"The idee," sed Issaker Gavitt, "that sellin liquor or drinkin it is demoraliz in. I hev drunk likker all my life, and—"

At this pint Issaker's wife come in, and wantid Issaker to go and get some rice, and then go home and split some wood. Issaker wantid to know wat she come there for, and the onreasonable woman bustid into tears, and sed she couldn't split wood, with no shoes and three inches uv snow on the ground, and that there wuzn't a thing in the house for the sick baby to eat, and ef Issaker wood spend half the time at work that he did loafin at Bascom's, and half the money on his children that he did for likker, and—

Issaker didn't allow her finish her onreasonable harangue. He took her by the shoulder and shoved her out the door, and swore that he didn't know how it wuz in Ohio and Injeany, but he'd be d—d if in Kentucky woman shoodent keep in her proper spear. He wuznt a goin to allow no woman to dictate to him wat he shood do with his time or his muney, nuther.

Captin McPelter remarkt that ef his wife ever jined in sich a demonstrashun she'd wish she hadn't. His wife tried to stop him from takin another drink wunst, after he felt his oats and hed throwd a cradle with a six months baby out uv the door, and the black eye she got wuz a warnin to her never to interfere with his prerogatives no more.

Poor Bascom wuz cast down. He sed Amerikin libberty wuz gone, when a passel uv wimmen got to goin about interferin with a man's biznis. But he shood adopt vigorous measures. He'd never surrender—never.

Friday come and Bascom wuz ready for em. Evry wun uv our persuasion in the Corners hed ordered his wife to keep strikly in doors, and on no akkount to vencher out doorin the day. Bascom asked us all to stay with him, and see him thro it. To wich we all agreed. Them ez was married and kept house, went home to fix up ther doors and nail boards over the broken glass uv ther winders, so that ther wimmen shoodn't see outside. It's no small matter to close up all the holes in the houses at the Corners.

Well, at 11 o'clock a percession uv women did make their appearance at the lower end uv the village, and they moved up slowly to'ards Bascom's. G. W. wuz ez pale ez a sheet.

"Wat shel I do?" asked he.

"G. W." sed I "there is but one thing yoo kin do. Rally yoor frends about yoo, and make head agin this unholy croosade. The regular frequenters of the place are friend and are not here. Bring em here! Bring em here to-wunst! Swing out a placard wich shel read:

"Likker free to all! doorin the continyooance uv this fanatikle campane!—Hol all ye that thirst! Come and drink, without money and without price."

"This, G. W. will fetch em in, and ez long ez the likker is free they will stay in, and give yoo their moral support. Shel I write the placard?"

G. W. wavered. He cast one glance at his kegs, and sighed heartilnly. I cast one glance at them kegs, and wuz determined that so good an opportoonity shood not be lost.

"Ha!" sed I, "the foe! they come! they come! To hesitate now is to be lost. The head uv the invadin columu hez turned the corner. Shel I write?"

"Yes!" hed Bascom, bustin into tears: "write. Ef they shet me up I'm rooined, and ef you hev free drinks I'm bustid. But I'd ruther take the free drinks part of it."

"Certainly," sed Issaker Gavitt, soothingly; "free drinks, by all means. After all, Bascom, it amounts to the same thing. It's free drinks anyhow, for yoo hev to charge em to us, don't yoo?"

And so I writ the placard and histed it up at the door. The result wuz majical. In less than ten minits the glad noose had reached every house in the village, and there wuz gathered together in Bascom's sich a solid mass uv liberty-lovin men ez hed never been seen together at the Cross Roads.

Bascom appointed two uv us to draw likker for the thirsty crowd, and then we throwd open the doors, calkulatin to greet em with sich cheers ez would effectooally silence all the stogin and prayin they cood do.

The wimmin approached. We cood see em. They wuz all closely vailed. Ez they approached the door I directed the likker to be served out faster, so ez to get the boys tuned up to the right pitch. But, alas! they didn't stop! They didn't stop to sing or to pray or nuthin. They simply passed by, pulling their vails closer to their faces, and snickerin. I looked thro the vail uv one uv em and saw whiskers.

But with rare presence uv mind I sed nothin.

"Draw more likker!" I shouted, "they will be back in a moment."

By the time this drink wuz down Bascom wuz so far gone that he didn't know nuthin. He got lunatic, and springin from the counter insisted on everybody's not only drinkin, but that every man uv us shood fill a bottle and take it with us.

It is onnecessary to state what followed. The revelry waxed furious, and by night the bodies uv the fallen were piled on top uv each other four deep. Evry drop uv likker in the house wuz gone, for wat wasn't drunk hed ran showed to waste, for men drawd it who wuz too tite to shet the faucets. Bascom wuz laid out. Deekin Pogram wuz snorin ez he hedn't slept for a week, and I, screened yoor humble servant, wuz the wust played out uv any uv em.

The next mornin Joe Bigler voochered around, and I asked him ef he cood rite the winnin.

"Winin'!" sed he, "them warnt winin. They wuz boys employed in the factrys in New Boston, Nasim," sed he confidentily, "my opinyin is that that cuss, Pollock, put this up on us, with a view to roonin Bascom. I heerd him talkin with one uv them factory men, who is his brother-in-law, and I heerd the brother-in-law say that it wuz too good not to do it. I presume this is wat they refered to. But don't say that I told yoo."

Pastin Pollock's an hour after, I heerd him and Bigler a talkin voceferously, and I knowed that this wuz wat they wuz tellin at.

But, thank Heaven, the joke isn't onto me. I got twenty square drinks out uv it for nothing. But I do pity Bascom. His heart is broke. His empty barrels, his broken glasses and bottles, bear mute testimony to his losses. May Heaven forgive Pollock and Bigler.

PETROLEUM V. NASBY, P. M.

P. S.—I shel issoo the first number uv my new paper next week.

AN OHIO BANKER ON FINANCE.

We have had on our desk for a number of days a pamphlet giving the views of Mr. JOHN G. DESHLER, of Columbus, on the conflicting policies of inflation and contraction. We are pleased to see that Mr. DESHLER takes ground against his own class, the money-lenders, in favor of the interests of the debtor class. Mr. DESHLER is experienced as a financier, and is entirely too philosophic to suppose that a policy which crushes out the business men who chance to be borrowers is the best for the business of the country. The contractionists are for going back to the reckless and destructive doctrines of JACKSON and BENTON, the basis of which was that he who traded on borrowed capital ought to break.

Mr. DESHLER is eminently practical in his views and suggestions. He shows that there is a school of quack financiers whose ever ready prescription for every sort of financial malady is "specie payment." They apply this as recklessly as in the olden time physicians of the heroic school applied calomel and blood letting to their patients. Physicians do not now copy after them. So in law and military science, old theories have had to give way before the achievements of practical men. Results are the true tests of all theories. MCCLELLAN, the book-soldier, found his star growing pale before the indomitable, common sense energy of GRANT. SHERMAN's bummers set at defiance all rules of military science. But they won the day for all that.

Credit, and not gold, has been the basis of the business of the country for twelve years, in which time, gold has not performed the function of money. It has been a commodity, fluctuating with the market, according to demand and supply, and affected by corners and speculations just as wheat and pork are affected. Yet, with credit as a basis our industries and trade have been more uniform and stable than at any preceding time. Mr. D. shows that prior to 1860, when business was supposed to be done on a gold basis, panics and general derangements took place at intervals of from seven to ten years. Then, of course, suspension of specie was the result. This was only changing the basis of business from specie to credit, where it had better have been from the beginning. Since 1862 until late in 1873 we had no severe commercial shock. In that time we were blessed with unusual business activity. Vast amounts of capital were fixed in manufactures, which not only paid satisfactory dividends to capital, but gave comfortable wages to workmen.

In this connection Mr. D. alludes to a fact which, of itself illustrates the fallacy of the so-called specie basis for business. The population of New England amounts to about three million six hundred thousand souls, and the savings banks of those States have deposits amounting to near four hundred millions. England and Ireland have a population of thirty millions of souls, and their savings and postal banks have only deposits to the amount of three hundred millions of dollars. The savings of a little over three and a half millions of working people in this land are more than those of *thirty millions* in a specie paying country, by a hundred millions of dollars. Is it any wonder that working people get away from a specie paying country? Can we copy English systems of finance without coming to the same results her systems have reached? We see nothing in such sequences to make us desire them.

The credit of a thrifty and honest nation is a far safer basis for a currency than a pile of metal in anybody's vaults. The gold and silver may be burned in fire, or stolen by thieves, but the credit of the nation is as broad as its domain, and as indestructible as its mountains and hills. We agree, therefore, with the doctrines of this pamphlet. We express no opinion now of the details of the writer's financial plan. But his views of the relative merits of gold or national credit as the foundation of currency are sound and practical. They are, therefore, worthy of the attention of our thinkers, and can not be disregarded by our legislators without detriment to the public interests.

☞ Gov. ALLEN is sometimes reported as being in favor of the Democratic redistricting of the State, and sometimes as being opposed to it. It does not matter much either way. The arrangement of districts will be a huge elephant on the hands of the party which tries to make a change, as every politician wants a place in a district favorable to himself or some one of his special friends. Cut up the State as they may, the Democratic craving for office cannot be satisfied. Then if any Legislature attempts to derange the apportionment made after the fixing of the ratio of representation Congress may upset their plans. About thirty years ago, the Whigs threatened to overturn a Democratic apportionment. The Democracy protested, by all that was sacred, that such a step was unconstitutional or illegal. If that was good doctrine for Democrats then, it is quite as good for their opponents now.

☞ What patriot will make himself the working apostle of the Findlay and Toledo Railroad? This line can be built—it is in the power of the people to do it without feeling it, and it would be of incalculable benefit to the Northwest.

TOLEDO, WABASH & WESTERN.—The Railway *Review* of this week says that Messrs. Winslow, Lanier & Co., 27 Pine street, N. Y., are offering T., W. & W. gold bonds at 85 and interest, payable 1st February and August, principal due 1895. The loan of $5,000,000 gold is to be used for replacing the iron rail with steel, and for additional equipment. These are the only gold bonds of the Company, and are secured by a mortgage following after $17,500,000 old bonds and preceding $1,000,000 preferred and $15,000,000 common stock. A new energy has been instilled into the management since Jacob D. Cox was made President, and the reforms which he has introduced, and the economy being now practiced, have already increased both net and gross earnings. The completion of the Canada Southern and the line from Toledo to Mansfield on the Ft. Wayne R. R. gives the Wabash two new outlets to the East, and prevents all detention of cars, a difficulty which prevailed when the L. S. & M. S. constituted its only Eastern connection.

The First Clearance of the Season—Large Craft—Minor Matters.

Navigation is not entirely closed on Lake Michigan it seems, and during 1874 quite a number of trips have been made by both steam and sailing vessels.

The steamer G. J. Truesdell arrived at Chicago from Milwaukee on last Friday, with a cargo of 2,100 barrels of flour, this being her tenth trip since January 1.

There are being constructed for next season a number of vessels which are marvels of size and carrying capacity, and exceed anything heretofore sailing on the lakes. Ship building is unusually active, and all the yards are employing large forces of men, in order, if possible, to be ready for an early opening of navigation. The largest craft now upon the stocks is a steam vessel, at Marine City, which measures 260 feet, over all, and will have to await the enlargement of the Welland Canal before finding unrestricted navigation. The second in size is a steam barge being built at Cleveland, measuring 258 feet over all, and having a carrying capacity of 80,000 bushels, or more than three times the average capacity.

Then follows the mammoth tug Livingston, constructed at Port Huron, and said to be the largest in the world, being 151 feet long, 134 feet keel, 25½ feet wide and 13 feet hold.

At Racine, a schooner of 55,000 bushels carrying capacity is in the hands of the builder, and at Milwaukee one of like size is nearly finished. Thus it will be seen that the Lake marine is making rapid strides in the character of its craft.

On and after the opening of navigation in the spring, the Pier-head light at Oswego, N. Y., will show fixed red instead of fixed white, as heretofore; the size of the apparatus remaining unchanged. No change will be made in the main light.

The Buffalo Board of Trade have taken action in the matter of the Detroit River obstructions to navigation.

The ice in Green Bay is thinner than has been known in any winter for several years. It is said to average less than half a yard in thickness. An early resumption of navigation is very probable.

The first clearance of the season from this port bears date of March 2d, and is much earlier than is recorded for years. The scow Oak Leaf, Captain Floro, yesterday took out her papers, and during the afternoon set sail for Sandusky, without cargo. The bay is clear of ice, and she has doubtless reached there all right ere this.

In 1859 the schooner Freeman, from Detroit, sailed up Saginaw river on the 17th of March, having met with no material obstruction in all the distance from Detroit.

A correspondent of the Milwaukee *Wisconsin* writes that at any time previous to Feb. 1, one of our propellers of ordinary power could have passed the Straits without any special hindrance and says: "Unless we have exceedingly cold weather for the next thirty days, there will be an early opening of navigation."

Messrs Ryan & Johnson are fitting up their fleet of vessels at Sandusky for the purpose of going up the lake in quest of ice.

Buffalo builders have on the stocks no less than nineteen new tugs, and quite a large portion of them are of large size for river towing. One will cost $15,000, and is intended for towing on the enlarged Welland Canal. The Messrs. Carroll Bros. are building seven, Mr. Heighway, two, Messrs. Gibson & Craigmile, and Mr George Notter seven. Two of the number are steam pleasure yachts, modeled for great speed, though they may be used for towing canal boats. One of them is for Rochester parties.

It is reported that the tug Golden City was sunk at Windmill Point, about six miles up the lake, on Wednesday morning.

From the Detroit *Tribune* we learn that on Saturday R. L. Montgomery and others of the Star Line purchased the steamer Milton D. Ward of Pridgeon, Demass & Welch, for the sum of $48,000. It is not contemplated to remove her from the line she was on last year.

The New Ten-cent Note.

The new ten-cent fractional currency note, series of 1874, has made its appearance. This note is a trifle larger than that of the last series, its size being three and a quarter inches in length, and two inches wide, and instead of the large red seal across its face it has the small seal of the Treasury Department, encircled with lathework in green on the lower portion of the note. The portrait, engraved in vignette form, of William M. Meredith, Secretary of the Treasury during the administration of President Taylor, appears on the left end of the note. At the left of the portrait, inclosed in a panel, is the white-face roman cap lettering, "fractional currency." At the lower and upper ends of this panel is the monogram "U. S.," and in the corners forming the borders of the note are the figures "10" "X" "Ten," elaborately ornamented with scrolls. On the right of the portrait is a large counter of geometrical lathwork, on the face of which is the figure "X," with the word "cents," engraved in a black letter, across its face. Over the counter is the title "United States," ruled face curved. The note also contains the signatures of the Treasurer of the United States and Register of the Treasury, and are at the bottom, nearer to the right side. The reverse of this note has the usual legend engraved upon it, and is printed in green, the localized or bluish fiber appearing on the left end of the back, instead of on the face, as heretofore. The engraving of this fifth serial note, or series of 1874, as a specimen of artistic skill, is far superior to any ten-cent fractional currency note heretofore issued.

INTERNAL REVENUE COLLECTIONS.—Deputy Collector GEO. R. TOURTELOTTE furnishes us the following statement of the Internal Revenue collections of this Congressional District for the month just closed:

Collections on Spirits	$19,138 34
Collections on Tobacco	61,004 00
Collections on Fermented Liquors	3,229 43
Total	$83,371 77

OUTLAWRY ON THE LAKE SHORE.

A Crowd of "Muskrat French" Burst open the Door of a Private Residence—A Woman Guards the Door with an Axe to Prevent their Entrance.

On the narrow strip of land near the State line, bound by the Ottawa river (Ten Mile Creek) and the bay shore, is quite a settlement of what is commonly known as "muskrat French," a class of people who live mostly from the profits of fishing and trapping, and occasionally the profit of a small patch of ground they have under cultivation. Though generally of a harmless disposition, when fired by whisky they frequently commit deeds of outlawry of a serious nature. A case of this kind occurred on the "Point" on Sunday night last.

About 11 o'clock in the evening a party of a half dozen young roughs, much under the influence of liquor, called at the house of a Mr. GUAGER, and demanded admittance. This was refused by the housekeeper, a Mrs. WILLIAMS, the only inmate of the house beside Mr. GUAGER. The young men could not brook a denial, and after a little parley forced in the door, with the avowed intention of "smashing the house." The broken latch being again fastened, they, with united strength, forced the door from its hinges, and prepared to clear the premises. But here an unexpected obstacle intervened in the person of Mrs. Williams, who, snatching up a gathering axe, threatened to brain the first man who stepped across the threshhold. This seemed to quiet them for a time, and finding that she could be not intimidated by threats of shooting, the Beauty went off. At a later date another attempt was made to force an entrance but, like the first, was unsuccessful.

On Wednesday the power of the law was sought by the assaulted parties to restrain the young men, some six in number, who threatened vengeance on those who denied them admission to the house. The young rowdies seem to place their chief reliance to escape arrest from their proximity to the State Line, where they can defy the officers until a requisition is obtained.

Officers visited the scene of the affray to-day and the case will receive the attention of the Police authorities at an early date.

NEW FREIGHT CARS.—Four hundred new freight cars are being manufactured at Dayton, for the Canada Southern, under the supervision of C. E. BENTON, Master Mechanic.

DIED.

BEAN—At Stony Ridge, Wood county, Ohio, on Sunday, March 1st, inst. CALEB BEAN, formerly a resident of Oregon Township, Lucas county, Ohio, aged 55 years.

A Farmer Gives His Views.

EDITOR BLADE:—It is a source of great satisfaction to the farmers of the West, to see the noble stand you have taken in favor of the people, and against the monopolies of the present day. You have my heartfelt thanks for your efforts to relieve the people from the one great monopoly, and the one to which all other monopolies owe their existence—the money monopoly. Your columns have given some excellent advice to grangers, and have given them the true solution of the transportation question, by urging a course which, if rightly pursued, would not only remedy, but to a very great extent remove the evil. I need not inform your numerous readers that the building up of manufactories in the West is one of the great objects of the grange movement, and that they are doing their utmost to carry it out. It is astonishing that the Western people have shown so much apathy on that one vital point in the past. There have been times when the prices of produce were inflated to such an extent that there was a fair remuneration left the producer after all transportation charges were paid. This is no longer the case, and farmers are beginning to look about for a remedy, and it is the most hopeful sign of the times to see that they have discovered the remedy.

As you have opened your columns for the discussion of this question, a few remarks upon some of the suggestions of the BLADE may not be out of place. Your plan of having farmers use their surplus capital in building up manufactories I don't think could be put into any practical effect for a number of years. I will assign my reasons for thinking so.

First and foremost of which is, the farmer's surplus is very much on the wrong side of the ledger. Farming here in the west has been very unremunerative for about four years (or ever since the inauguration of ex Secretary McCulloch's contraction policy). While one farmer might have accumulated a very small amount of money in that time, a score or more have been going behind and in debt. This is a lamentable fact. It is astonishing, too, how many were in debt before these depressed times came on. It would require at least ten years of as prosperous times as we had from 1863 until 1868 to liquidate the greater portion of those debts. Those who have their property unencumbered have friends and relations whom they will relieve before they invest their surplus means in any uncertain enterprise. I question whether it would be advisable for farmers to invest their money in any enterprise which is to be run and controlled by others. No business can be carried on successfully only by those whose interests centre in it. It may be well enough for farmers to risk a little in joint stock companies, but no farmer wants to risk much.

If my theories are correct, there can be no way for farmers to accomplish much in that direction, only by abandoning their own business and going into manufacturing themselves. There are many objections to this. Farmers more than any other class of men are least calculated to embark in any business of that kind. Manufacturing needs men of business turn of mind, and farming is not calculated to develop the business capacity of any man. The chances are ten to one that a man brought up in the mercantile business will run a factory successfully to the same man if he had been brought up on a farm. The experience of farmers who have engaged in mercantile pursuits has been a most disastrous one. What would it be if they were to engage in manufacturing and had to compete with men who have spent nearly their whole lives in the business. Men whose experience has taught them when and where to strike, and who know all the hooks, crooks and corners. Their not having any knowledge of the business would be the greatest objection of all. Very few can succeed in any business unless they become familiar with the business. I believe there is but one plan by which we can build up manufactories in the West to a very great extent, and that is by holding out inducements to eastern capitalists to come and invest their money here.

There certainly is a very inviting field here for persons who feel disposed to go into manufacturing. It is to be hoped that the late panic has, to a certain extent, stopped gambling in railroad and other stocks, and that money hereafter will seek more legitimate channels. There can be no better investment for money than in manufactures of different kinds in the west. There is an abundance of water power in place. The Des Moines River, for instance, is unsurpassed in the whole country. There are in exhaustible supplies of iron ore and coal (though of the bituminous quality in close proximity to each other, and yet this same Missouri ore is sent east, and there made into iron and manufactured into mowers, reapers, plows, cutlery, &c., and sent back to us. The decline of the iron interest in England, a reasonable protective tariff on iron in this country, together with the future demands of our growing population, make a promising outlook for that branch of business. Manufacturing can be carried on cheaper here than in the east, from the fact that the operatives can live a great deal cheaper here than there. Western miners will give their preference to western manufacturers, and will give them aid and encouragement in various ways. Besides this, those who invest in water privileges here can, at no distant day, realize fortunes from them, if they choose to sell for the reason that water power is not as common here as in the east, and that it will all be utilized some time.

There is one thing which, I believe, accounts for the absence of manufactures here in the West more than all things else, and that is the high rates of interest. It is the greatest curse under which our Western country now groans. There are thousands of monied men here who have their money loaned out at rates that would ruin the borrower in any business anywhere. This Western country is alive with such sharks. They make a business of loaning money to farmers and others at from 10 to 30 per cent. and taking mortgages on their property, and finally forcing it to a sale; and, of course, it won't sell for more than two-thirds of its value, and, in most cases, being the purchasers. They hold this property until they can find some other victim, whom they can serve in taking what little money he has as part pay, and taking a mortgage with a ruinous rate of interest for the balance. The purchaser, like his predecessor, wakes up some morning and finds that he too is without home or money. Usurious and shaving on notes is the principal occupation of the Western shylocks. If this thing continues much longer, we will have but two classes here, paupers and beggars. I don't wish your readers to infer that all money lenders here are of that class. What inducements are there for any one to engage in manufacturing or anything else, when h a money will be readily snatched up at 10 per cent., and even higher rates. The result of this ten per cent. business is that nearly all the manufacturers and about all the laborers want to sell out and go into it themselves.

Any rate of interest over 10 per cent. is usury here in Iowa, but there is more money loaned out at higher rates than there is at those rates. It is very doubtful if any man can carry on a legitimate business successfully and pay 10 per cent. interest on the money he invests. Farms here, on the average, don't pay over 3 per cent. on the money invested in them.

To diverge a little from my subject, I would like to see the Englishman of the New York *Times* and a few more contractionists, put on farms in Iowa, and compelled to pay ten per cent. interest on just half of the money value of the farms. I don't think it would take over two years at the outside to convince them that either greenbacks or National Bank notes were plenty good enough to pay out with. My opinion in this matter of interest is Congress should establish a uniform rate, say six or seven per cent. all over the United States, and make it a crime or misdemeanor to receive any more, either directly or indirectly. I should judge that Congress or the State Legislature have the same control over the money monopoly that they have over railroad or other monopolies.

The farmers, however, can accomplish a great deal. There are a great many indispensable articles, the manufacture of which require but little skill or capital. Farmers might co-operate and erect grist mills, grind their own grain, ship it direct to the consumer, thereby saving what goes into the hands of middle men, also make what the millers in Buffalo, Rochester, and other places otherwise would make. This all would be no small item, as the wheat crop is our main dependence in places. Of course the foreign demand for wheat would be the wheat, and not the flour. How many years would it be before you would save enough to pay for your mill? You could also co-operate and pack your own pork. Pork packers we stand in as little need of as highway robbers. Such a course would stop these corners in grain, pork, &c. There is no necessity in sending to New York State for cheese while cows are so cheap and pasture so unlimited in the west. Kansas or Missouri is equal to either Delaware or New Jersey in the production of fruit sent west from those States. There is hardly a manufactured article that we use but is manufactured in the east or in Europe. A little aid to others from the farmers might accomplish a great deal in remedying these things. All this must change and will change, sooner or later.

At no distant day, the noise of the forge, the loom and the anvil will be heard in every village and city in the West. It is our duty as farmers and Grangers to quit hugging this delusion of hope, and do all in our power to bring it about. We cannot expect instant relief from our troubles by building up manufactures here, but when once began will very soon afford partial relief. A great many of us who are now producers will find employment and become consumers, and there will then be less liability of over-production. We will give a hearty welcome to manufacturers and others who will help this branch of business in the West. As Grangers we have given that assurance repeatedly. It is a mistaken idea that Grangers entertain any hostility to manufacturers or any other class. It was for the purpose of being able to hold our own against the innumerable leeches who have been preying upon us so long that we have organized.

D. W.

Vernon, Iowa, Feb. 20, 1874.

LETTER FROM MINNESOTA.

The Character of the Country—Railroads and Manufactures.

CORDOVA, LeSueur County, Minn.,
February 21, 1874.

EDITOR BLADE:—Accepting the general invitation in your valuable paper, I will proceed to give a few facts in regard to this section of Minnesota, which, in my opinion, offers many strong inducements to settlers, whether of large or small means.

LeSueur county is situated on the east bank of the Minnesota River, about fifty miles from St. Paul, in a southwesterly direction from that city. The St. Paul & Sioux City Railroad crosses the west side, from north to south, about thirty miles of its track being within this county. The Winona & St. Peter Railroad crosses the southwest corner of the county, intersecting the St. P. & S. C. Railroad at Kasota. These two roads give the west side of the county a good market, which is helped in the summer by the Minnesota River, which is navigable for small steamboats. The Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad, which is located across the east side of the county, the track being laid to within a few miles of the county line, will be completed as soon as the financial panic will permit. Several other roads are projected, lines surveyed, &c., some of which will doubtless be built in a few years.

The surface of the country is rolling—in some places hilly—and mostly covered with timber, interspersed with beautiful lakes of clear, cold water, which, with clean banks and high, wooded bluffs, form landscapes unexcelled for beauty. There are no less than twenty-five of these lakes, varying in size from two to three hundred acres to as many thousands, within the county. Fish of several varieties and of large size are abundant in all the lakes. There are some deer in the woods, and a great abundance of small game, such as partridges, prairie chickens, rabbits—both white and gray, and in the spring and fall, millions of ducks and geese in the lakes, attracted by the wild rice which grows here.

The soil is a black sandy loam, with a clay sub-soil in most places, warm and strong, and produces wheat, corn, oats, barley, potatoes, &c., and timothy, clover, and all other of the tame grasses, and every kind of garden vegetables in great abundance. I need not enlarge on the grain producing qualities of the soil, as the reputation of the State is sufficiently established in that respect.

The timber of Le Sueur county consists of red and burr oak, white and black ash, hackberry, basswood, elm, red and white hickory, black walnut, butternut, soft maple, sugar maple, ironwood and other kinds, which I cannot now call to mind. The making of maple sugar is quite an important item of production in this section, large amounts being made ever year. Comora boasts the banner sugar maker of the State, Wm Hodgkins, whose annual product is from four to six thousand pounds, besides syrup, vinegar, etc.

There are several good waterpowers in the county with some grist and saw mills, but few are improved to their full capacity, while some are unimproved.

There are several steam saw-mills and the lumber business is steadily increasing and will in a few years be a large and important business.

Kasota, the southwest corner of the county, has become famous for its extensive quarries of stone, which is of a very superior quality. It is being shipped to St. Paul, Minneapolis, Sioux City and other points in large quantities.

Le Sueur City, in the northwest corner of the county, is the County Seat, and the largest village, having a population of about 1,200, is a lively village, but will not be likely to hold the County Seat long, being too far from the centre of the county. There are several small villages, all of which seem prosperous.

Manufacturing is in its infancy, being confined to flour, lumber, cooperage and two or three small wagon and other shops, though with plenty of first rate timber there is no good reason why this should not become, in a few years, the center of a large manufacturing business, especially in wagons, sleds, plows and agricultural implements of all kinds, as well as furniture, as we are entirely surrounded with an extensive prairie country which is rapidly filling up, and as yet imports all its farm implements from Wisconsin or farther East.

First-rate unimproved land can be bought in lots to suit at from $4 to $10 per acre. There is no limit to the amount that can be purchased at these figures, as there is not more than one-fifteenth of the whole county under improvement. The land is easy to clear, probably not half as hard as the oak and beech lands of Ohio and Indiana, and the stumps soon rot out. The timber land, when cleared, is much more productive than the more easily improved prairie.

This winter has thus far been the mildest ever known in Minnesota—so say the oldest inhabitants.

In a future letter I will have more to say of the advantages of Cordova.

CARROLL.

☞ The record of deaths each year from Bright's disease and other affections of the kidneys is really alarming. It is gratifying, however, to know that *Kearney's Extract Buchu* has given the most decided satisfaction, and produced the most salutary and beneficial effects in those diseases, as well as gravel, catarrh of the bladder, diabetes, and all obstructions or diseases of the urinary organs, in male or female. Depot 104 Duane street, New York. Physician of 30 years' experience in attendance to answer correspondence gratis.

MATRIMONIAL.—Ladies and gentlemen should read the "Amor," an intelligencer for all who desire to marry happy. Price, $2 per annum. Single copies 25c. Address L. MUNQUE, P. O. box, 1665, Philadelphia, Pa.

SONGS OF THE BIBLE.—"I can conscientiously say that in Scriptural truth and beautiful music, 'Songs of the Bible' excels all other books of the kind; at least this is the opinion of not only myself, but all others to whom I have submitted the book. It meets a want long felt in our Sunday School. We need to exalt the 'Word' fully as much in song as in other ways. I predict an unparalleled success for this work, and thank the publishers for issuing it." W. H. PAXSON, Supt. Am. S. S. Union, St. Louis, Mo.

Lost! The name of the person who did not like the CABLE SCREW WIRE Boots and Shoes. Any one finding such a person will be liberally rewarded by buying a pair and trying them.

Among the fine arts not lost is the art of children making holes in the toes of Boots and Shoes. Time taken about ten days. SILVER TIPS are an excellent remedy, never known to fail.

☞ It will be seen from an advertisement in another column, that the Agent of the Public Library, Louisville, Kentucky, has over a million of dollars in Bank, and that he assures the public of a full drawing on the 31st of March next.

The list of gifts is exceedingly attractive and the high personal character of the manager is a guarantee that they will perform what they promise.

Colds and Coughs—Sudden changes of weather are sources of Pulmonary and Bronchial Affections. Take at once "Brown's Bronchial Troches," let the Cold, Cough or Irritation of the Throat be ever so slight.

Reverse your plan awhile. Leave off calomel, blue mass and all other violent and poisonous purgative medicines that break down the system and the body, and for a blood purifier, an alterative and for an antibilious remedy use Hamilton's Buchu and Dandelion. Its kind and healthful influence on the kidneys and liver open up the system gently and effectively. You have no fearful debility and pros ration following it. For Sale by all druggists.

"How stern how cruelly comes on,
The chilling hour, when the fever's gone:
When clammy sweats have passed away,
And aches and pains begin their rueful play,
I yawn, I stretch, I curse the cause,
That agitates my chattering jaws."

Well, you may curse this cause, but that won't cure you. Go to your drug store and get a remedy that cancels the poison in your blood and takes it out of your system. You remove the cause and cure the disease by taking Kress Fever Tonic, the best and only warranted ague medicine in the market. A box o pills free with each bottle.

☞ Gov. Thos. E. Bramlette, of Louisville, Ky., has given three years to the building up of a Public Library in Louisville, which he intends shall be the best in the country. He is doing it by a series of Gift Concerts, the profits of which go to the Library. The third drawing distributes $500,000 and the fourth, which takes place March 31st, distributes $1,500,000. The drawing will certainly occur on the day named, and the 12,000 gifts distributed as set forth in advertisements.

YOUTH AND MEN—Suffering from Bad Habits and Effects, Nervous Debility, etc., send 10 cents for 84 Book. Nine Illustrations. Dr. E. C. ABBEY, Buffalo, N. Y.

The Gates of Pearl,
through which the human voice issues, should never become rusty. To keep the teeth for ever free from blemish, to render their decay impossible, it is only necessary to use Fragrant Sozodont. It is antiseptic and supremely wholesome.

It is "never too late to mend" with Spalding's Glue.

Nervous Debility.
A depressed, irritable state of mind; a weak, nervous, exhausted feeling; no energy or animation; confused head, weak memory, often with debilitating, involuntary discharges. The consequence of excesses, mental overwork or indiscretions. The Nervous Debility finds a sovereign cure in Humphrey's Homeopathic Specific, No. 28. It tones up the system, arrests discharges, dispels the mental gloom and despondency, and rejuvenates the entire system. It is perfectly harmless and always efficient. Price $1, for a package of five boxes and a large $1 vial of powder, which is important in old, serious cases; or $1 per single box. Sold by all Druggists, or sent by mail on receipt of price. Address HUMPHREY'S SPECIFIC HOMEOPATHIC MEDICINE CO., No. 562 Broadway, N. Y.

PLAIN, WILLIAMS, & CO.,
Wholesale Agents, Toledo, Ohio.

L. W. HAMILTON & Co., Stock Brokers, 48 Broad st., N. Y., have published a very interesting book entitled "How Fortunes are made in Wall Street," which they will mail free to any address. All interested in stock speculations should call or send for a copy.

The Household Panacea and Family Liniment
is the best remedy in the world for the following complaints, viz: Cramps in the Limbs and Stomach, Pain in the Stomach, Bowels, or Side, Rheumatism in all its forms, Bilious Colic, Neuralgia, Cholera, Dysentery, Colds, Fresh Wounds, Burns, Sore Throat, Spinal Complaints, Sprains and Bruises, Chills and Fever, for Internal and External use. Its operation is not only to relieve the patient, but entirely removes the cause of the complaint. It penetrates and pervades the whole system restoring healthy action to all its parts, and quickening the blood. The Household Panacea is Purely Vegetable and all healing. Prepared by CURTIS & BROWN, No. 213 Fulton street, New York. For sale by all druggists.

The Centaur Liniments allay pain, subdue swellings, heal burns, and will cure rheumatism, spavin, and any flesh, bone or muscle ailment. The White Wrapper is for family use, the Yellow Wrapper for animals.

Children cry for Castoria.—pleasant to take—a perfect substitute for Castor Oil, but more efficacious in regulating the stomach and bowels.

Children Often Look Pale and Sick
From no other cause than having worms in the stomach. BROWN'S VERMIFUGE COMFITS will destroy Worms without injury to the child, being perfectly WHITE, and free from all coloring or other injurious ingredients usually used in worm preparations. CURTIS & BROWN, Proprietors, No. 213 Fulton street, New York. Sold by Druggists and Chemists, and dealers in Medicines at 25c. a box.

Thirty Years' Experience of an Old Nurse.
Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP is the prescription of one of the best Female Physicians and Nurses in the United States, and has been used for thirty years with never failing safety and success by millions of mothers and children, from the feeble infant of one week old to the adult. It corrects acidity of the stomach, relieves wind colic, regulates the bowels, and gives rest, health and comfort to mother and child. We believe it to be the Best and Surest Remedy in the World, in all cases of DYSENTERY and DIARRHŒA IN CHILDREN, whether it arises from Teething or from any other cause. Full directions for using will accompany each bottle. None Genuine unless the fac-simile of CURTIS & PERKINS is on the outside wrapper. Sold by all Medicine Dealers.

MARRIED LADIES can learn a secret of special interest, by enclosing address and stamp to MADAME M. F. TULLY, Tolleboro, N. Y.

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LOVERS' GUIDE (new edition) 224 pages illustrated—Model Love Letters—Art of gaining love of and marrying who and when you please—How to be handsome—cures for hundreds of diseases; Also many new secrets, mysteries, curiosities, fortune telling, games, &c. Price only 10 cts. Address UNION PUBLISHING CO., Newark, N. J.

AGENTS Wanted for "THE MARVELOUS COUNTRY, or the Apaches' Home," by Hon. S. W. Cozzens. History of the Apache Tribe—Ruins of Ancient Cities—Cochise, great war ch

A BENEVOLENT MEASURE.

Mr. Rukenbrod, of the Ohio Senate, to whom the State of Ohio is indebted for several of the humane measures which adorn its legislation, has introduced into the Senate a bill to allow two or more counties to unite in establishing homes for orphans and other children who may be cast upon the world's charity for support. The law at present allows counties to procure sites, erect buildings, and sustain such institutions for orphans and other indigent children within their respective bounds. But there are a number of counties unable or perhaps unwilling to bear alone the cost of buildings, grounds, etc., for this purpose, but could unite with neighboring counties in such a work. This is a humane and necessary work. Neither the present law, nor the bill now pending, obliges any counties to undertake this work, but allows them liberty so to do, the people of each county being judges of its expediency and necessity.

Certain religious denominations provide, as well as they can, for the poor of their communities. Several bodies sometimes unite in this work of humanity. People of strong religious convictions and preferences greatly desire to have their children brought up in their own faith. And most churches consider themselves bound to see the children of their deceased members brought up in the communion to which the parents belonged. Therefore, much of this work of humanity is taken off the hands of the State by voluntary associations. But after all is done, by voluntary effort, that can be done, many children are on the streets without parental care or other proper supervision of their persons or their conduct. There are many waifs crowded in at the tables of relatives, who can ill bear the burden and inadequately watch over them, being already possessed of families of their own.

Many orphans, at a tender age, are put into county infirmaries, and no places in families being found for them, they are allowed to grow up in very unfavorable circumstances, for their social and moral development. Therefore the State does wisely and nobly in making every possible provision for charities of this kind. The State must either prevent vagrancy and consequent crime by timely provision, or by and by must punish it in penal institutions.

In this connection we wish to add a word germane to this topic. The best place for a child is in a kind and competent family. We believe in orphan's homes, as we have indicated, but the home of healthy, well-to-do people should never be childless. Every one who can take from the abodes of the wretched poor a neglected child, or relieve the charitable institutions of one or more such, is doing a great work for humanity and for society. Such a work makes the heart rich, and adds no sorrow. A thousand orphans adopted into as many childless households adds much brightness and blessing to a world which will always have many poor to care for.

UNIFORMITY IN SCHOOL TEXT BOOKS.

We have called attention to the attempt to get through the Legislature of Ohio a scheme to secure uniformity in text books for the schools by means of a State commission to prepare them, and penalties to compel the use of the series prepared by authors whose time should be worth no more than $2,000 per annum. We have before us the report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of Minnesota on this subject. He declares strongly against the Legislature attempting to establish a uniform series for the State. He contends that while some advantages might accrue from uniformity, the evils growing out of it would more than counterbalance them.

Only a few States have attempted to establish uniformity, and most of those who have, soon abandoned it. The great body of educators in the United States have been opposed to it. The men of best judgment and experience say that it would tend to break up the competition among book publishers, which has produced the greatest improvements we have in text books. Uniformity debars improvement and creates monopoly. It promotes dull routine sameness in the schools. It perpetuates the mischief of poor or bad books which might get into the State list. But more serious than all would be the depressing effect on authors, to whom the field of competition is now open, for those doing the best work to get the best reward. As in all other branches of trade, competition is healthy and life-giving, while monopoly is depressing and ruinous. We hope our Legislature will heed the suggestions of men who devote their lives to the business of education.

Car Thieves.—For about a month past a system of petty thieving from the cars of the Canada Southern Road, at Amherstburg, has been going on which has not been detected early enough to prevent a very serious loss. A man by the name of Samuel Frasher has been suspected of being engaged in the thieving, and Friday Detective J. W. Murray succeeded in capturing him, together with his two sons, Dick Johnston and Mike Cox. The house of Frasher was searched and resulted in the finding of about twenty pairs of shoes. The gang had just perfected arrangements for a systematic course of thieving, and one of them confessed that they proposed to go into extensive business in robbing grain cars by tapping the bottom. The party is in jail and will soon have a taste of Canadian Justice.

Lost His Overcoat.—Friday night a young man who lives between here and Sylvania, who has more money than brains, came to town to see sights. He dresses very stylishly and had on last night a first rate overcoat worth $60. After visiting several saloons, imbibing freely at each, he met a couple of gents who took quite a fancy to him, (or his money,) and they kindly offered to "round with him and show him the elephant. He accepted the offer and they started off. This morning when one of our reporters saw the young man, he had just found out where he was, in a box on Sixth street. He said that he did not remember how he came there, but thinks that his companions kindly gave him lodging in that dry goods box, taking for their trouble, his overcoat, watch and chain. On being asked if he was not going to make complaint at the Police station and have the fellows arrested, he said that he would not, that if he did he would have to stay in town, that he would get his name in the papers, and that was just what he didn't want. "I guess I'll just chalk this down to experience, and next time I come to Toledo, will have sense enough not to get drunk." Wise youth.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS.

Liberty Center, O.

Editor Blade:—The fifth annual masquerade ball was held in Couch & Lanham's Hall on the 20th inst in honor of Washington's birthday, and notwithstanding the very inclement weather and bad roads, the attendance was large, some seventy couple participating, and not a rifle or discordant element to mar the highest anticipations of the most sensitive during the occasion. Music was furnished by Hackett's splendid string band of this place.

J. J. Cothran, of Napolean, J. B. Couch and C. K. Woodward, of Liberty, are reported to have been ejected from passenger train No. 6 going east, soon after leaving Napoleon, a day or two since, for refusing to pay Conductor Brownless more than 30 cents to Liberty—conductor demanding 40 cents. The affair caused some excitement, and rumor says that steps were immediately taken to settle the matter in court.

The Grangers hold their regular session in Fansber's Hall this P. M., and some of them who are already making their way into town from the country. Whether they will ever succeed in accomplishing all the objects in view, is a matter of the future, and if they all succeed in getting their money back and pay for loss time, we fear it will be far in the future.

Feb. 26, 1874. Equality.

Wauseon, O.

Editor Blade:—The Court of Common Pleas commenced Friday morning, Hon. A. S. Latty presiding. Attorneys present from other counties were R. C. Lemmon, Chas. Kent, C. Dodge and B. T. Geer, Esqs., of Lucas, and C. L. Bentley, of Williams county.

Decrees of divorce have been granted in the following cases:

Catharine Gilbert vs. Linus Gilbert, for wilful absence.

Elizabeth Archer vs. Martin R. Archer, for wilful absence.

Susannah Brodbeck vs. Philip Brodbeck, for wilful absence.

Harriet Poorman vs. Jacob H. Poorman, for extreme cruelty.

Geo. D. Havens vs. Sarah M. Havens, for adultery.

The case of Gilman Cheadle vs. John Q. Riddle et al., for damages resulting in an injunction case, is the first tried by a jury, and is now in progress, and from present appearances bids fair to consume the major part of the time set apart for the present term of our Court. The grand jury are grinding out indictments, mostly against the venders of intoxicating liquors. Yours truly,

Feb. 25, 1874. X. X.

Wood County.

Col. J. A. Shannon and Rev. J. T. Kiggins will discuss the question of Free Masonry, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings, of next week, at this place. This discussion has been looked for anxiously for some time and we are glad to be able to now make definite announcement of it. Rev. Kiggins is a minister of the United Brethren Church, and is stationed at this place. He takes the position of his church—that all secret organizations are wrong, and especially that Free Masonry is anti-christian and anti-republican. Col. Shannon is too well known to need an introduction. He is a Mason of a high order—a Knight Templar. We doubt not that the discussion will be an interesting one and will bring out a large crowd. The following agreement has been signed by both disputants:

Question to be discussed—

Resolved, That Free Masonry is anti-Christian and anti-Republican.

Affirmative—J. T. Kiggins.

Negative—J. A. Shannon.

The discussion to be opened by Mr. Kiggins, and each disputant to occupy three-quarters of an hour in each argument.

The discussion to be continued during three evenings, commencing on Wednesday evening, March 4th, 1874, and each speaker to make one argument each evening.

The Moderator or Chairman to be agreed upon by the parties, and the discussion to be conducted upon and by the usual rules governing such meetings.—*Bowling Green Sentinel.*

Fulton County.

From our exchange we learn that grain thieves are robbing the granaries of the farmers of Fulton county. It is supposed to be the work of a well organized band of men, co-operating with a similar organization in Michigan.

Monroe, Mich.

The Liquor Traffic—Social and Musical.

Editor Blade:—The circulation of the postal cards among the liquor men, announcing the opening of the campaign by the ladies' temperance organization, caused a general sensation in the city, and everybody was on the tip-toe of expectation, in view of the contemplated effort to close out the liquor traffic in what has been considered one of its strongholds; but either the notices issued were unauthorized by the "Committee of Thirty," or intended as a "sell," for the demonstration did not place, as announced, to the great disappointment of hundreds, but no doubt equal joy of others. It is, however, asserted that the movement is only deferred—not abandoned.

On Wednesday evening, the 25th inst., the Circle of Euterpe gave an entertainment at the Bethooven Conservatory, which was in every way a creditable affair, though the attendance was not so large as on former occasions. The following is the

Programme—Part First.

Sunrise Galop—Instrumental Club. Bendix. Messrs A. Bohme, G. Vergho, A. Rupp, Ph. Mann and Prof. Zeus.

Baritone Solo—Fahnenvacht. Lindpaintner. Fred. Sedlaczek.

Piano Duet—The Fall of Paris. Hunten. Miss Mary Leonard and Prof. Zeus.

Reading—Miss Nellie Kendall.

Piano Solo—Leybach. Miss Lillie Stoddard.

Vocal Duet—The Lone Rock by the Sea. Misses Lillie Barry and Mary Garwood.

Organ and Piano Duet—Serenade. Schubert. Miss Lillie Stoddard and Mr. Austin Gale.

Twilight Mazurka—Instrumental Club. Bendix.

Part Second.

Piano Quartet—Wedding March. Mendelssohn. Misses M. Thurber, M. Morton, M. Reynolds and Prof. Zeus.

Bass Solo—Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep. Knight. Mr. Frank Sill.

Reading—Miss Mary Reynolds.

Vocal Solo—Lover and Bird. Guglielmo. Miss Jennie Baldwin.

Duo de Concert—Martha. 2 Pianos. Hotzo. Miss Jennie Garfield and Prof. Zeus.

Soprano solo—Quando il Destino. Donizetti. Miss Nellie Spalding.

Vocal Trio—Gelsarto. Misses J. Baldwin, M. Garwood an Dr. Weiss.

Mollie's Waltz. Lanner. Instrumental Club.

The religious meetings which have been in progress for several weeks, are still continued, with increasing interest.

The services heretofore held in chapels have during the week passed been held in the large audience room of the Methodist Church, which has been filled every evening. Rev. Dr. Strong, formerly pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Monroe, recently of Harrisburg, Pa., and Syracuse, N. Y., who has recently accepted a call from the Presbyterian Society at Kalamazoo, has preached two evening to large houses and preaches again to-night. A businessmen's prayer meeting is held every morning at nine o'clock at the Presbyterian Chapel, and is largely attended.

A snow storm is prevailing this morning with prospects for another "run of sleighing." Mark.

Feb. 26, 1874.

Williams County.

Rev. Dr. Buckingham will lecture before the Bryan Lecture Association at Mykrantz' Hall on next Tuesday evening, March 3d.

The spring term of the Common Pleas Court for Williams county begin March 10th.

Bowling Green.

Obituary—Bad Roads—Democratic Literature.

Editor Blade:—On Monday, the 23d inst., David Cargo, one of our leading citizens, and highly esteemed by all who knew him, died after a lingering illness of four or five months duration. At one time he was Mayor of this village, and, at the time of his death, held the office of Clerk of Plain township. He was esteemed for his unswerving integrity, his affable nature and kindly disposition. His funeral will take place to-day at 11 o'clock, from the M. E. Church, discourse by Rev. Mr. Hubbard, of the Presbyterian Church.

The roads are as bad now, or perhaps worse than they have been at any time this winter, and the prospect ahead is not very promising. Don't know whether the blame should be laid at the whole of the woodchuck or not. Probably his chuckship has enough of sin to answer for.

For the past eight or ten days a few of our zealous Democratic citizens have been circulating subscription papers for establishing a Democratic newspaper, but finding it an up-hill business in this county, I believe they have about given up the project. The encouragement they are receiving is not very flattering, and does not augur well for its success if such a paper should be established. Center.

Feb. 24, 1874.

Allen County.

Thief Caught—Man Injured.

Last Wednesday night the store of Roebuck & Co., at Monroeville, Ind., was broken into and some goods stolen. On Friday night, a couple of men were observed by Jas. H. Corns, night baggageman and police officer, prowling around some cars near the depot, in Lima, and on ordering them to halt they failed to comply, when he fired a pistol at one of them, wounding him in the leg and bringing him down. He had a box containing suspicious goods, and wore some three or four suits of clothes. The other fellow got away. The same day, the owner of the store at Monroeville was here and identified the goods. The thief was taken to Indiana, on Saturday, where the matter will probably be investigated and he get his deserts.—*Gazette.*

About seven o'clock on Monday evening at Lima a portion of the brick cornice on the Collins building, northwest corner of the Square, fell to the pavement, quite severely injuring Albert Heffner, who was standing in the doorway of the building. He and Sam Collins stood talking when the brick fell, and hearing them coming, Collins dodged close up to the door and escaped injury, while Heffner started to run, but the brick caught him on the head just as he made a start. His skull is considerably bruised, and in one place where a brick him fairly there is a serious wound. He will, in all probability, however, soon be around again, unless inflamation should make the matter complicated.

There are eighteen postoffices in Allen county.

The Fish of Ohio.

[From the Cincinnati Gazette.]

Columbus, Feb. 21—Mr. John H. Klippart and John Hussey, Fish Commissioners, under the recently enacted Ohio law establishing them, have submitted to the Governor their first annual report.

They first discuss the causes of the decrease in the supply of fish in the streams of Ohio, and attribute the same to the destruction of timber and consequent drying up of the small brooks and swamps that served for spawning beds. Many of the streams themselves, being near dry four months each year, of course produce no fish.

The erection of dams for slack water navigation, has cut off the supply in the larger streams. The State dam across the Scioto near Chillicothe, has almost destroyed the buffalo, the white perch and the jack salmon in the river above that dam. The spoonbill is extinct. The black bass, not being migratory, still flourishes.

Deleterious substances thrown into streams from sewers, factories, etc., have also diminished the quantity of fish and prevent their increase. The discharge of gas refuse unfits catfish for use, even when it does not destroy them.

The report details various experiments to show the fatal effect of even a small quantity of certain deleterious substances, acids, alkalis, etc., upon fish. Sulphuric acid and lime are active poisons, and sawdust is very destructive, by getting into the gills and producing suffocation.

The law against the use of seines in taking fish has been violated with impunity by irresponsible persons, and this is a terrible source of destruction. The Commissioners have not the "sand" to make seine fishing an offense punishable by imprisonment; they get off a little weak sentimentality about it, and they arrive at the rather inglorious conclusion that the law should be modified so as to prohibit seining only at certain seasons, and amended so as to regulate the size of the meshes. It is difficult to see how the "irresponsible parties" they speak of, who are now destroying the fish of Ohio and cutting off for this and future generations a noble supply of cheap food, could or would be affected by the changes which the Commissioners propose.

Nor do the Commissioners propose any relief for the destruction of fishes by poisons thrown into the streams, except from gas works. They merely recommend that more means be placed at their discretion to supply an increased amount of young fry, so that out of the great number supplied enough may escape to prevent all from being poisoned. This is a little as if when a city is being desolated with cholera on account of filthy streets some one should propose, instead of cleansing, that great numbers of people should be brought in from other places, so that out of the vast supply some might escape, and thus the city not be wholly depopulated.

Still it is not to be wondered at that the Commissioners are moderate, and even timid, in their recommendations. The care of fish is a comparatively new and unknown thing in Ohio; and it may be the part of wisdom and good sense in Messrs. Klippart and Hussey to ask for but little until our people are somewhat familiarized with the great and important interest they have been appointed to foster.

Even the fish in the lakes and reservoirs are being rapidly destroyed, and the startling statement is made that the quantity in Lake Erie is only one-twentieth what it was twenty-five years ago.

The reservoirs, 55 square miles in extent, are next taken up. In these, from the variety of temperature, etc., vast quantities and great varieties of fish may be grown. But they must be kept clear of decaying timber, which is exceedingly injurious to the fish, poisoning them with fungous matter, etc. Some of these reservoirs belong to private individuals, but the great portion are public property, and if well stocked with fish might be made to yield, not only abundant food, but considerable revenue to the State.

Ohio abounds still in good fish growing streams, but in no State are these so poorly stocked. Ten thousand miles of streams might be utilized. But energetic measures must be adopted or the fish in all this region will disappear.

There must be fish chutes or ladders for fish to ascend the streams during the spawning season, and over the many mill dams. So far the Board of Public Works has failed to construct such chutes over the State dams of the Scioto, although the last Legislature appropriated $2,000 for the purpose. The Commissioners either want this money placed in their own hands, or the Board of Public Works compelled to build the chutes.

They also ask an appropriation for a State fish hatching house near Sandusky for lake fish, and another at some good point for the reservoirs, streams, etc. The Commissioners believe in a few years the price of black bass and white fish might be reduced to three or four cents per pound.

The Commissioners then enter into an elaborate and exceedingly interesting discussion of the history, practicability, utility, and methods of artificial fish breeding, both in foreign countries and in different States of the American Union. The thing is no longer an experiment, but a gratifying and fixed fact.

The Commissioners recommend specially for artificial propagation in Ohio the white fish of the lake, the black bass, the lake bass, and the yellow perch. Each of these is separately, ably, and thoroughly discussed in the report. The pickerel is condemned. As to shad, our white fish and black bass are just as good, and costly experiments with shad are not recommended. Salmon ought to be experimented with, as it has been ascertained that they can live and flourish in fresh water. Trout may be grown among the hills and cold streams of the Ohio coal regions. A fish hatching house in connection with the State Agricultural College has been suggested by the Commissioners, and approved by the faculty and Trustees.

The Commissioners conclude by recommending an appropriation of $5,000 for carrying out the objects they suggest—certainly a modest request, and one with which I doubt not the General Assembly will cheerfully comply. Y. S.

HORSE THIEF CAPTURED.

F. Smith Steals a Horse in Lansing, is Chased and Caught in Sylvania.

Last Saturday the following facts were given us by a detective, but we were requested to withhold their publication until the "heavy villian" had been caught. As he now languishes in jail we feel at liberty to give them to the public:

About a week ago to-night a man named F. Smith stole a horse from a farmer near Lansing, Mich., and also a lot of jewelry and about $100 in money. As soon as the loss was made known the marshal of Lansing, G. B. Sutton, started in pursuit of the thief. By some means he ascertained that Smith had sent a trunk by express to Toledo, and he notified the police here and told them to keep close watch for the illustrious Smith. He then started at Lansing and by means of information picked up along the way tracked the horse thief to Sylvania, where he was caught last night and taken back to the scene of his villiany. Before going he confessed the crime, and also stated where he had stolen a lot of goods that were found in the trunk at the express office.

Ohio Constitutional Convention.

In the Con. Con. the Committee on Accounts and Expenses reported that the cost per capita of stationary since the Convention first met, has been about $40. The total cost is $4,000. The Committee also gave an itemized comparison of the cost as charged by the Secretary of State with what the cost would have been had the proposition of a stationer in Cincinnati been accepted. The showing was that $1,530 would have been saved. Certified copies were ordered to be sent to both Houses of the General Assembly.

The Constitutional Convention Thursday afternoon ordered to a final reading the article on County and Township organizations in nearly the form reported by the Committee.

The Oliver House.—This popular hotel for so many years the leading one of the city, has again changed hands. On Monday next it will come under the control of Donald McDonald, Esq., that gentleman having taken a lease of the house and its appurtenances for five years. Mr. McDonald's return to the Oliver will be a matter of congratulation, not merely to the traveling public, but to our citizens in whose midst he previously held the same relation to this hotel for more than three years. To those who are familiar with the Oliver during Mr. McDonald's connection with it, we need not speak of the reputation which it acquired through his skill as a landlord and caterer, and we can only hope that he may find his success of former years repeated under the new arrangement.

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Lot 164, on the corner of St. Clair and Adams street, 60 feet on St. Clair and 120 feet on Adams; one of the best business corners in the city. Good Brick House on the Lot.

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Toledo, Feb. 25th, 1874.

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Toledo, Feb. 12, 1874.

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AGENTS WANTED.

Farm, Garden and House

Plaster as a Manure.

There seems to be little doubt but what plaster, or as it is called by chemists, sulphate of lime, is on some soils an efficient and cheap manure; while on other soils it seems to be of little, or no value, as no difference can be detected in the crops following its use.

Now in order to tell the soil on which it will pay to use it, is a question that we shall have to decide for ourselves; for I am not aware that any man can tell by looking at the soil, where it will pay to use it, or where it will not pay. Therefore, if we would know for a certainty, it is best to try small quantities on different parts of the field; either by sowing on grass lands as a top dressing, or by using as a manure for field crops in different ways, and the answer that you may get will likely be a true one. After you have found where it will pay, then use it liberally, and it may be well to say here that if the crops are all consumed upon the farm, there need be no fears of ruining your farm by using plaster in a judicious manner.

GYPSUM—HOW DOES IT ACT?

This question seems to be a hard one to solve, and in fact has never been answered satisfactorily either by agriculturists or chemists, so far as I can learn. Mr. W. T. Early, of Virginia, writes under this head, and as it seems to be sound, I will quote some of his ideas. "It is said by a distinguished professor that it is food for plants, or manure. This cannot be true, for generally when applied to land about seventy pounds or a bushel to the acre is found to be sufficient for all purposes, and over that amount is a waste of material." By some, it is said that it acts upon the soil mechanically. "This is obviously a mistake, as, everything else being equal, it acts in the same manner upon all soils, the light, loamy, stiff clayey, sandy or rocky, being equally and in like degree affected by it. And the quantity used, a bushel per acre, is too small to have any appreciable mechanical effect upon the soil."

"Others claim that it acts only as a constituent of plants. This cannot be true, because, if it were so, much more than a bushel per acre might profitably be used, as it is perfectly obvious that common manure, bone dusts, and guanos of all kinds, can be used to any extent almost, with results corresponding to amounts used, while in case of plaster, no appreciable results follow beyond a certain quantity."

"Some say it is simply a stimulant of vegetation. This explanation will not do, because there is no doubt plaster permanently improves the soil, i. the vegetation produced by it is not removed from the land." The most reasonable answer seems to be that it acts as a condenser, both of ammonia of the atmosphere and of the soil, and that it holds this most subtle and powerful manure in its grasp fixes it and gives it up to the growth of plants as they require it instead of allowing it to pass away. Here are a few words that seem to establish this theory: "If you sow plaster on a heap of manure, steaming and giving off ammonia, it will stop the escape of the gas, until the plaster becomes saturated, and then it will begin to escape again; sow again, and it will stop, and so on till all the ammonia is taken up and fixed." And another proof of this is in the fact of its great deodorizing powers. Take Peruvian guano, whose great fertilizing property is ammonia, mix plaster with it a proper quantity, and it will be inodorous. And so it will be with other manures, either animal or vegetable, which gives off ammonia. It is said that ammonia is the richest portion of all manures, then if plaster will prevent the escape of it, we may use it in this direction with a certainty.—*Correspondent Maine Farmer.*

How Grass is Changed to Beef.

The ox is a ruminant—and all ruminants masticate their food the second time, or rather first swallow and then after some time commence the process called "ruminating," or popularly, "chewing the cud." Let us trace this process in the cow.

The tongue first collects a mouthful of grass into a bundle, when it is nipped off by the teeth of the lower jaw and the grasping power of the muscular lips. She does not pause to masticate now, but swallows it whole. It descends to the first stomach or *rumen*, which is only a storehouse in which the food is kept till wanted. This first stomach consists of four small subdivisions, and the coat is covered with thousands of little elevations, which doubtless produce some chemical change in the newly received food. From this first stomach the food passes into the second, which is much smaller and very complex in its structure. It is covered with a multitude of small cells, from which it is often called the honey-comb bag. In this second stomach the food takes the form of rounded, compact masses, which are returned through the gullet to the mouth by the muscular action of the stomach. Now begins the process of ruminating, during which she seems to enjoy the very perfection of animal bliss. As each portion of the food is properly masticated it passes direct from the mouth to the third stomach. This is accomplished by the closing of the tube that leads to the second and third stomachs. The third stomach is very small and called manyplus, from the numerous folds of which it is composed, arranged like the leaves of a book. Between these active folds the food rests a short time, when it is passed into the fourth or true stomach, where the process of digestion is completed, and the food passes into the organization.

Fresh Eggs.

Poultry keepers, as a class, do not seem to realize how easy it would be for them to have a regular and certain supply of fresh eggs during the winter months, when they are most acceptable and valuable. Those who raise pure bred or fancy fowls are usually provided with suitable accommodation, but their number is comparatively small, and the eggs which they get are usually saved for hatching purposes, and do not affect the supply in the market, while the great multitude of common hens incontinently "dry up" at the first approach of cold weather. The accommodations provided for the hens are usually of such a character that a few hours' work, and the expenditure of a few dollars in lumber and nails would transform them from cold, cheerless apartments, into a warm, light, easy place, where the hens would sing songs of gratitude, and gladden the heart of their owner with fresh eggs every morning. Fowls do not require as much room in winter as during the summer, and a very small place will shelter them if it is only kept clean, is well lighted, and gets the sun during a portion of the day, at least. Wherever it can be done, the poultry house should be so located as to get the sun's rays during the entire day. Nothing will supply its place where eggs in winter and early chicks are wanted.

Fowls that can have the run a few hours each day, with plenty of food, clean water, and a dry dust bath, will continue to lay through the winter; and as an egg at that time is equal in value to three in summer, will give their owner a much larger annual profit, while the additional care necessary is hardly appreciable.—*Live Stock Journal.*

Planting Peach Trees.

For peach-growing on a large scale, choose high rolling land. Plant out seedling peach trees very thickly, say about eight feet apart each way, with corn or potatoes between rows. Cultivate well till the trees begin to bear. After the first or second crop, thin out such trees as have been damaged by winds and other causes, and such as produce poor fruit. This thinning process will yield an immense quantity of fuel. Three-fourths of the trees may thus be removed in the course of one or two years, leaving the trees about one rod apart both ways, and about 160 to the acre.

For marketing in the fresh state, plant the best budded sorts one rod apart each way, cultivate in corn or potatoes till the trees bear, then sow to clover. Keep pigs and poultry in the orchard as much as practicable, to keep down the curculio and other insects. Should such a plan as the above meet the approval of our Kansas farmers, very soon the scarcity of fuel will not be heard of, and we may repeat on a broader and more permanent scale the peach producing history of New Jersey and Illinois.

The peach is sometimes budded on plum stocks. This fits it better for cold clay soils. It also dwarfs it somewhat, rendering it more fit for small gardens and yards.—*John Davis, in Junction City Tribune.*

What Sheep are Needed.

There has been some discussion in your columns as to what breed of sheep is most profitable. All breeds are, if well kept, profitable, more or less, for all classes of wool are in more or less demand. But the following from the New York *Economist*, goes to show that, just now it will pay our farmers to take good care of their long-wooled sheep:

It is true it takes time to raise lambs and increase flocks of sheep. As yet there has not been much increase in the production of the staple in our Northern or Western States; but what is lacking in quantity is to some extent made up in quality, for our markets now present lines of fancy wools from Virginia, Pennsylvania and Ohio, which are equal to any wool grown the world over. The superfine fancy clips from West Virginia are particularly choice, and will bear close comparison with the finest Australian and Silesian. The wools will command fancy prices at any time, no matter how stringent money may be, for they are always wanted for opera flannels, fine faced doeskins or ladies' worsted dress goods or braids, and yet we fear enough of these grades will never be grown in the States to supply the increasing wants of our manufacturers. The demand for combing wools continues very active, in fact, it is urgent; until now prices have rapidly risen, especially for Canadian. From a private letter, written by a well-known firm in Hamilton, recently, we are enabled to make the following extract:

Combing wool cannot be got in any quantities at present. The country has been scoured all around for manufacturers in your State, and as high as 44c gold has been paid, and the prospect is, it will go somewhat higher. We estimate the clip at 1,500,000 pounds.

This sounds like high talk; but wait; before the ink is yet dry on the paper we write upon, we have advises still more astonishing—with sales 46c gold for Canadian combing, and the best article is now held at half a dollar gold. This would carry the price beyond 80 cents currency; and yet it is not a fortnight since Mr. Walworth asserted he would not pay over 60 cents for the staple landed in the States. Such are the enormous demands for worsted wools, the world over, that everywhere in Europe and America, they are bringing prices out of proportion to fine clothing grades.

The *Economist* goes on to advise the importation of Canada sheep to cross with Saxony (!), in order to supply the pressing demands for combing wools. But if our breeders of long wools would save all the ewe lambs, letting none go to the butcher, these breeders would put the country into a fair way of supplying the demand at as quick, and far better rate, than by following the advice of the *Economist.*—*Correspondent Live Stock Journal.*

Profits from Twelve Cows in One Year.

My cows are all breeds, a mixture of natives, Devons, Durhams and Jerseys. It took for a pound of butter in June, twenty-two pounds of milk; the last of summer about 21. I now make a pound of butter from 20 pounds of milk, and skim it 26 to 28 hours after straining. My account for the year stands as follows:

	CREDITOR.	
Sold 2,450 lbs. of butter	$1,152.02	
Used in family 168 lbs. worth at 35c	65.10	
Sold calves, pigs and pork	120.00	
Pork salted 500 lbs. at 7c	35.00	
Killed one calf worth	5.00	$1377 12
	DEBTOR.	
Cost of meal feed to cows	$197.60	
Cost of meal feed to hogs	10.00	
Paid freight and express on butter	60.00	267 60
		$1,110 12

Leaving $92 50 per cow to pay for work, hay and pasture. Now let us hear from the farmers and know what each are doing. As dairymen cannot get far from home very often we must talk through the papers.—*S. C. Dreis in Vermont Farmer.*

An Item for Farmers—A Cure for Milk Fever.

An experienced Chester county dairyman says that he has found coal oil to be a very excellent remedy for milk fever in cows. He first tried it some time ago, when one of his cows was down with the disease, very much swollen, and no hope whatever of the animal recovering. He gave her the third of a pint of the oil, and in half an hour the swelling began to go down, and the cow showed a decidedly improved appearance and took a drink of water. Giving the water he thinks was a mistake, as soon after taking it she became worse; the coal oil was again administered and the cow got well. Week before last another animal was attacked. This time he gave half a pint of oil, and repeated the dose every three-quarters of an hour until the swelling began to go down, and the following morning the cow was standing up all right and could be milked—whereas not a drop of milk could be drawn from her the previous night. After giving the oil, and the animal gets better, flaxseed tea of gruel should be fed. We trust our farmers and dairymen who have occasion to use this remedy will do so.

Miscellaneous.

Adaption of Gun-Cotton to Fire-Arms.

The use of explosives other than gunpowder in fire-arms has hitherto proved impracticable on account of their sudden and violent action, ordinary charges bursting the gun before the resistance of the projectile is overcome.

Many attempts have been made to get over this difficulty, particularly in the case of gun-cotton, but none have heretofore succeeded entirely to the required extent. It is now claimed, however, that Mr. S. J. Makie has contrived a method by which gun-cotton is readily adapted to the requirement of small arms. After preparing gun-cotton in the ordinary way, the material is brought into a granulated condition by suitable apparatus, grains of any required size or density being produced as desired. This granulated cotton gun-powder is to be used like other powder, and is said to be equally free from the danger of bursting the arm.—*Galaxy for March.*

Gossip for the Girls.

Miss Wood, daughter of Fernando, who has just made her debut in society, is said to be very beautiful.

Emily faithful is delivering lectures throughout England on the subject, "Eight Months in America."

"The one thing," says Jean Paul, "which a maiden most easily forgets is how she looks—hence mirrors were invented."

An Italian musical education, together with the advantage of a chaperone, costs a young lady $5,000 a year on an average.

The man whose hair turned white in a single night is surpassed by a Boston girl, who lost hers completely at one dance.

What a jolly girl to spark would be one of those nychatopians, who cannot see in the daylight, but do wonderfully well in the dark.

The daughters of Minister Jewell are such fine skaters that all the Muscovites stop to cheer them when they appear on the Russian ice.

Japanese silks will be more fashionable next summer than they ever have been. Some of the new patterns are exceedingly pretty, and for evening dresses will "make up lovely."

Vines of natural or artificial flowers are used to trim evening dresses, with beautiful effect, they being made to simulate overskirts, apron-fronts, court trains, etc., in the most charming style.

Artificial or natural flowers fastened to the muff carried by the fashionable *demoiselle* of the period is quite the correct thing; provided, however, that the muff is of cloth or velvet—*not* fur.

A Washington letter calls attention to the fact that not a dollar has ever been missing from the Department of the Comptroller of the Currency, where ladies exclusively are appointed as clerks.

The fashionable season has commenced again in Berlin, and the city is represented to be crowded. The theatres are doing an excellent business, although opera goers sigh for Lucca. Those peculiar carnival balls at Knoll's are announced to commence about the Christmas holidays.

Lindy Johnson, a colored woman, aged either 112 or 113 years, has just died in Hartford county, Maryland. She disdained the use of spectacles, and the traditional fine cambric needle, it is said, was threaded by her with neatness and dispatch until within a week of her death.

It is stated as a fact susceptible of easy proof, that a young man at Austin, Nevada, has made a mistake. He bought a handsome dress pattern for his intended wife and a pair of red flannel drawers for himself. He delivered the wrong bundle. Result—A broken head and a ruined frying pan.

A young lady of Lyons, Iowa, recently said: "Some men are always talking about patronizing their own town—always harping on that duty—and yet they go abroad to get married, while here we all stand waiting. I do hope that some of those men who marry Eastern women will get cheated."

Two little girls were comparing progress in the study of their catechisms. "I've got to original sin," said one, "how far have you got?" "Me! why I'm way beyond redemption," said the other, at which her mother, who happened to hear the conversation, thought she had gone quite far enough.

Like many other things, buttons on dresses are going out of fashion. Now-a-days the front of the waist is fastened with hooks and eyes; and down the front, instead of buttons, are placed a row of small bows made of the same material as the dress. The effect is quite pretty. The idea is "imported."

An amusing mistake occurred the other evening up town. Two families residing on the same street and next door to one another, gave parties on the same evening. As a natural consequence, several of the guests got into the wrong house, and explanations were in order until midnight. At both parties, however, small talk received a stimulant.

How Birds Learn to Sing and Build.

What is instinct? It is the "faculty of performing perplex acts absolutely without instruction, or previously acquired knowledge." Instinct, then, would enable animals to perform spontaneously, acts which, in case of man, pre-suppose ratiocination, a logical train of thought; but when we test the observed facts which are usually put forward to prove power of instinct, it is found that they are seldom conclusive. It was on such grounds that the song of birds was taken to be innate; albeit a very ready experiment would have shown that it comes from the education they receive. During the last century, Barrington brought up some linnets, taken from the nest in company with larks of sundry varieties, and found found that every one of the linnets adopted completely, the song of the master set over them, so that now these linnets—larks by naturalization—form a company apart, when placed among birds of their own species. Even the nightingale, whose native sound is so sweet, exhibits, under domestication, a considerable readiness to imitate other singing birds. The song of the bird is, therefore, determined by its education, and the same must be true of nest building. A bird brought up in a cage, does not construct the nest peculiar to its species. In vain will you supply all the necessary materials; the birds will employ them without skill, and will oftentimes even renounce all purpose of building anything like a nest. Does not this well-known fact prove that, instead of being guided by instinct, the bird learns how to construct its nest, just as a man learns to build a house?

Washington Receptions.

A Washington "receptron" is thus described by Mrs. M. C. Ames in a letter to the *Independent*:

The hostess has not had any possible chance to obey the law of selections in her invitations, if she has been allowed to give invitations at all. Whoever has chosen to call on her claims by usage a card of invitation to her reception in return. As a result, all sorts of people—the majority of them very good people in their way, but without any common bond of union, often without even that of acquaintance—pack themselves into narrow halls and limited parlors, till at least ten are pushing on where there is comfortable space but for five. The ordinary reception is nothing but one great fatiguing push from beginning to end. You are pushed up the stairs to the drawing room. You are pushed out of it again (and trodden on, by way of variety) and down the staircase. You are pushed to the door of the drawing-room. Your name is shouted aloft, while you are pushed into the faces of your hostess and host. You touch the tips of their fingers or bow as you are pushed on, and that is all your "soul communion" with them for that night. You are pushed into the streaming crush of humanity beyond. You are pushed into dissolving heat, or into streams of icy cold, curdling your spinal marrow, from the open tops or bottoms of windows. If you happen to be pushed against the wall, you stand there, simply because you are wedged to it, and it is a physical impossibility to unravel yourself. Or, as it may happen, you range on the current, catching friends and taking glimpses of your friends, whom you cannot reach. If you drift against one, there is but time for a disjointed sentence before you are pushed on. If your hostess or wishes to afford it, at 12 o'clock the doors of the supper room are opened, and the jam beggars description. You may take your choice to be pushed or to push, and in either case to see plates of oysters, salads, and creams, with threatening spoons and forks, bristling through mid air, glancing by your nose, or swimming down your back. I was never sure that we were not a civilized people till I contemplated my compatriots in the Washington supper room of a "festive occasion." There I have seen dignaries whom the public believe have enough to eat at home pushing toward a supper-table as a cannibal might to his feast; and ladies renowned as "delicate" with piled up plates of pickles, salads, fruits and creams, cramming at a rate that would make a perfectly healthy woman sick abed for a week. Mind, it was not pleasant, social eating—the refreshing of cooling and soothing drinks; but the way of eating—rather, of devouring—of which I am speaking. Many a generous host and hostess, beholding the manner in which their guests push and grab at their refreshment tables, must feel that, to judge from appearances, all that the cramming crowd are there for is to stuff themselves. The eating over, all that remains is to push back up-stairs and down-stairs, and out, perhaps bowing to hostess and host, perhaps not, if the crowds make it impossible. And this is the beginning and end of a reception in "the season"—a dread to your soul and a destruction to your clothes.

Keep Inside.

The Boston *Bulletin* well says that there is more danger from the attempts of individuals to inflate their business than from an inflation of the currency. It says:

A man manifests more business tact in doing a business in proportion to his means than in doing more than his means warrant. The sailor who crowds the sails upon his masts without regard to the size of his vessel, is not a wise navigator. The business man who aims to do as much business on a capital of $500 000 as his neighbor does with $1,000 000, makes a mistake. It may seem to young business men a little old-fogyish to advise them to set a limit to their business; but careful observation has taught that the wisest merchants keep inside the limit of their capital.

It seems well enough for Jay Cooke & Co. to do the immense business they did, and men praised their shrewdness; but when the danger came, and it was found that they had not taken the possibility of a storm into account in laying their plans, the praise of the country turned into the loudest condemnation of their folly.

None can presume to say how much business a man may safely do on a certain amount of capital; but it can be laid down as a rule that he ought not to put himself in a condition where he will be dependent for his business existence upon a continuance of favorable circumstances. We do not, for several years, apprehend another financial crisis like that through which we have just passed; but so long as our national finances are in their present condition, it is possible for a combination of speculators to produce a monetary stringency at any time. No man who is doing business upon credit should put himself in a condition to be broken down when these occasions come, or be compelled to borrow at exorbitant rates of interest in order to prevent failure.

The Exaggeration of Wealth.

From the Cincinnati Commercial.

The rich Hebrew, Jacob Stiner, who was burned to death, with his wife and daughter, in New York, a few days ago, had always been supposed to be a millionaire, but it had been found by his will that his personal property did not exceed $100,000, and that his real estate, which was in his wife's name, was not worth more than $35,000. We suspect that similar revelations might be made in the case of a great many other men, in New York and other places, who are reputed millionaires, is not nearly as great as is supposed by those who talk loosely about millions. Some years ago when there was an income tax which compelled people to make revelations about their property, there was often much surprise expressed at the statements sworn to by men whom everybody had supposed to be enormously wealthy. In many cases they were accused of falsification, and doubtless some of them were guilty of it; but in many other cases the surprising statements made were quite true. It was the public who had formed the exaggerated ideas of their wealth, and not they who had misrepresented. There were more of these surprising revelations in New York than anywhere else.

A Moving Scene in a Baptist Church

From the Brooklyn Times, Feb. 17.

We made brief allusion yesterday to the extraordinary scene that was enacted in Lee Avenue Baptist Church on Sunday last, but the circumstances were so unusual that we hesitated to publish the particulars in our possession until they were verified, as they have been, by careful inquiry. The announcement that fifteen candidates for admission to the Church would be immersed at the close of the morning service increased the usual crowd at the Lee Avenue Church to such an extent that every inch of standing room in the aisles was occupied long before the hour for commencing services. Instead of the modest baskets of flowers that usually adorn the platform of the church, walls, reading desk and door were almost hidden in a profusion of blossoms most lovingly contributed by the friends of the candidates for baptism. Pastor Smith selected as the Scripture lesson for the morning the latter portion of the eighth chapter of Acts, describing the baptism of the Ethopian eunuch by Philip. Commenting on this, he pointed out the fact that no mention is made of the eunuch having ever connected himself with any church, except the "Go on your way rejoicing eunuch" which was the last after all. He pointed out, also, that the evangelist did not consider himself justified in refusing the ordinance of baptism to this candidate until he had passed the ordeal of examination by a church. Philip evidently recognized baptism as the privilege of all who believed in Christ and entirely independent of the disciplinary rules of individual churches.

After the usual devotional exercises and a short sermon, the cover was removed from the baptistery, and the pastor entered the water. The scene was one of immense solemnity as one after another, the robed candidates for admission to the church passed into the water, but it reached its culmination when after several young married couples had been immersed, Hyatt Smith came forward through the water, leading his neice by one hand and by the other Miss Jennie Abney, the daughter of Mr. John F. Ashley, a well-known citizen of the Thirteenth Ward. The congregation was looking on in silent expectation waiting for the usual formula that preceded the act of immersion, when Mr. Ashley rose from his seat about the middle of the church, and said, "Pastor, lo, here is water, what doth hinder me to be baptized?"

"If thou believest with all thy heart, thou mayest, replied the astonished pastor.

"I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and I have faith in his blood," replied Mr. Ashley.

"Come to the water, sir," said the pastor.

Mr. Ashley, dressed in his ordinary attire, then walked down the steps and entered the baptistry, taking his place by the side of his daughter, who stood still waiting for baptism, an astonished spectator of her father's act. As soon as he had taken his place, Mr. Smith addressed him in the following terms: "As a minister of the Gospel, serving in the name of Christ and by his authority, you have a right, as his disciple, to demand baptism at my hands. Do you believe in the Son of God?"

The answer being satisfactory, Mr. Ashley was baptised in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, in conformity with the practice at this church. As he emerged from the water, Mr. Smith said: "Do you desire to identify yourself with any visible church of Christ?"

Mr. Ashley replied: "As I believe that I can thus do more for Christ and better serve Him in whose blood I trust, I desire to identify myself with the Lee Avenue Baptist Church."

Mr. Smith—"The church in her authority will pass upon your name for fellowship at the next meeting, and I doubt not that you will be received."

The two ladies who had been standing in the water were then immersed, and as Miss Ashley arose from the water her father clasped her in his arms and kissed her. The scene was as impressive as unusual, and many in the audience were melted to tears. Mr. Ashley, the principal actor, was educated for the ministry of the Episcopal church, and his practical piety can be vouched for by all who have come in contact with him. We understand that the revival interest in the church continues to increase, and that multitudes are waiting for baptism.

Resources of Western North Carolina

Western North Carolina is not only exceedingly fertile, but abounds in the richer minerals, and needs but the magic wand of the capitalist waved over it to become one of the richest sections of this Union. Occupying one-third of the entire area of the State, and possessing more than a quarter of a million of inhabitants, its present prospects are by no means disagreeable; but its prominent citizens, of all walks in life, are anxious for immigration and development of the rich stores of gold, iron, copper, mica, and other minerals now buried in the hills. Let no one fancy that this mountain region is undesirable as an agricultural country; there are few richer and better adapted to European emigration. The staple productions of Haywood county are corn, wheat, rye, oats and hay; all vegetables grow abundantly, and the whole county is admirably fitted for grazing. The level bottom lands on Pigeon River and its numerous tributaries are under fine cultivation; the uplands and the slopes produce rich wheat; the ash, the sugar maple, the hickory and the oak, are abundant; and white pine is rafted down the Pigeon River in large quantities yearly. But the exceptional fertility of most of the ranges throughout all the counties mentioned is the great pride of the section. The sides and tops of the mountains are, in many cases, covered with a thick, vegetable mould, in which grow flourishing trees and rank grasses. Five thousand feet above the sea level, one finds grasses and weeds that remind him of the lower region swamps. Cattle are kept in excellent condition all winter on the evergreen growing along the sides of the higher chains. Winter and summer, before ravages of the war thinned out their stocks, the farmers kept hundreds of cattle on the mountains, feeding entirely on the grasses. In the spring, the herds instinctively seek the young grasses springing up on the slopes, but with the coming of winter they return to the tops to find the evergreen. The balsam tree can easily be banished, for after being felled for a few months, it will burn easily, and in its stead will spring up thick coats of evergreen. On some of the mountain farms, corn yields one hundred bushels to the acre, and wheat, oats, rye and barley flourish proportionately. In the "deadenings," where the large timber has been girdled and left to die, and the under-growth has been carefully cleared, timothy and orchard grass will grow as high as wheat. The native grape, too, flourishes on all the hill-sides, within certain thermal lines established by observation of the elder mountaineers; and varieties of grapes can be selected, and so planted as to ripen at different periods of the autumn. The negro population is not numerous in Western North Carolina. Wherever the black man is found, however, he is industrious, faithful, and usually quite prosperous. In some of the small towns, as at Waynesville, we found a gentleman's valet of other days, officiating as village tailor, barber, errand boy, coachman and "factotum."—*Scribner's for March.*

Ice Men and Coal Dealers.

[From the Danbury News.]

And now there is to be ice. How earnestly and vigorously have the coal dealers and ice men prayed for this "snap," and how long it has been in coming. You could tell either one of these worthies wherever you might meet him. Such intense gloom on the human face divine could indicate but one train of thought, but one aspiration, but one great sorrow, and all these could be entertained by but one class of people, and they either interested in coal or ice. We will never know, perhaps, the depth of despair into which these people have been plunged by this capricious winter, but the annals of our asylums for the insane will furnish some clue. One of them wrote us Thursday asking if we believed in the existence of a Supreme Being. Monday he came through the keen and biting frost to assure us personally that he had no doubt of it. Another sought by many well-known artifices to tempt zero to "hump" itself—such as leaving a new pail full of water on the stoop, neglecting to shut off the pipe water at night, omitting to renew the coal in the stove before going to bed, or to put his stockings under the pillow to keep them warm, leaving off his flannels, and doing or leaving undone other things of like nature. As a last resort he appeared the other day in a suit of linen clothes, with a straw hat on his head, and a palm-leaf in his hand. But the "snap" is here at last, catching the pond and the impoverished by the throat with an ugly grip. The ice man is satisfied. He would be in his element were it not frozen up so tightly, but he is elated; and coming out from the gloom which has engulfed him like a fog, he sees that it has been a hard winter, and while he turns back handsprings out of gratitude to heaven for his deliverance, thinks of the poor and hopes friends will be raised up for them. And now the poor swoop down on the coal dealer for a donation from his stock—knowing that the coal which pinches their souls but enlarges his pockets; but none are so poor as to swoop down on the ice dealer for his donation from his stock. And so he thanks of the poor and arises Heaven to bless them.

Scattered Thieves.

[New York Tribune.]

The great alliance of Tammany and Erie which was to stand against all assaults, was dissolved in a single morning. Of the leaders, on one side, the chief is serving a disgraceful imprisonment, a broken and melancholy old man, and it would seem as if all the rest were are not in jail, are clamoring for the privilege of betraying their accomplices. Of the leaders on the other side, one is dead, shot by his rival in a scandalous amour, and his partner has been driven out of the marble palace where the freebooters used to meet to count their gains and amuse themselves with ballets and pink-legged ballet. The judges who took pay from both Rings, and served them with such unblushing fidelity are gone. The painted women whom these vulgar rascals lifted into notoriety have carried their charms to other lands. With perhaps an insignificant exception here and there not one of the men who held New York in slavery two years ago can walk Broadway with head erect to-day.

SPECIAL NOTICES

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Hooping Cough—For this harassing disease patients should strictly refrain from using preparations containing opium, as this dangerous narcotic aggravates the tendency to congestion of the brain. Dr. Wm. Hall's Balsam for the Lungs being entirely free from opium, is peculiarly adapted to the treatment of this troublesome complaint. Use only this safe preparation that will abate the severity of the symptoms, and cut short the disease.

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50 Cash Gifts, $1,000 each	50,000	
80 Cash Gifts, $500 each	40,000	
200 Cash Gifts, $200 each	40,000	
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News of the Week.

WASHINGTON.

Strong efforts are making to have the Secretary of the Treasury reconsider his recent decision that pilots and engineers of steamboats employed upon the great lakes must be citizens of the United States. The plea is that there is not a sufficiency of those officers in the United States to answer the requirements of the business interests in that section. It is not probable a change will be made in the decision.

The President has signed the act providing that the course of instruction at the Naval Academy for cadet engineers shall be four years instead of two years.

The Treasury Department has prepared for transmission to the House of Representatives the specific sums necessary to supply the deficiencies in the appropriations for the year ending June 30, 1874, and prior years. They are as follows: For the Department of State, $18,067; Treasury Department, $636,673; War Department, $1 246,600; Department of the Interior, $88 485; Department of Justice, $320,670; Judicial Department, $2,944; total, $2,312 839.

The Secretary of War recently addressed a communication to the Chairman of the Committee on appropriations of the House of Representatives, inviting his attention to the reduction in the appropriation for the collection and payment of bounties, prize money, &c., to colored soldiers and sailors for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1874. The Secretary stated that if the amount necessary to make up the reduction be not granted, the business of paying colored claimants will be paralyzed, and by the end of April, if not sooner, entirely suspended; and further, that if the relief asked for is not granted, the time has arrived for him to give the public notice of the suspensions of payments.

The Attorney General has decided that the Secretary of the Treasury may withhold from a railroad company the compensation for transportation services when such company has received from the United States, to aid in the construction of its road, bonds upon which it has not paid interest, though the services were rendered upon another of its roads to which no government aid was given.

The President, on the 25th inst., sent the following message to Congress:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

"I have the honor herewith to submit a report of the Centennial Commissioners, and to add a word in way of recommendation. There have been international expositions held by three powers of Europe, and it seems fitting that the 100th anniversary of our Independence should be marked by an event that will display to the world the growth and progress of a nation devoted to freedom and the pursuit of fame, fortune and honor, by the lowest citizen as well as the highest. A failure in this enterprise would be deplorable. Success can be assured by arousing public opinion to the importance of the occasion. To secure this end, in my judgment, Congressional legislation is necessary to make the Exposition both national and international. The benefits to be derived from a successful International Exposition are manifold. It will necessarily be accompanied by expenses beyond the receipts from the Exposition itself, but they will be compensated for manifold by the commingling of the people from all sections of our own country; by bringing together the people of different nationalities; by bringing into juxtaposition for ready examination our own and foreign skill and progress in manufactures, agriculture, art science and civilization. The erection of the site for the Exposition seems to me appropriate from the fact that years before the date fixed for the exposition, the Declaration of Independence which launched us into the galaxy of nations as an independent people, emanated from the same spot. We have much in our varied climate, soil, mineral products and skill, of which advantage can be taken by other nationalities to their profit. In return they will bring to our shores the work of their skill, and familiarize our people with them, to the mutual advantages of all parties. Let us have a complete success of our Centennial Exposition, or suppress it in its infancy, acknowledge our inability to give it the international character to which our self esteem aspires. "U. S. GRANT.

"EXECUTIVE MANSION, Feb. 25th, 1874."

The House Committee on Education and Labor has decided to report adversely upon the bill authorizing territories to use two sections of land in each township for school purposes before organization as States. It was deemed injudicious to permit these lands to be disposed of before States were formed.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs has agreed to the bill which fixes a fee of five dollars upon passports. They are now gratuitous. This will create a large fund.

The House Committee on Appropriations has finished the Indian Appropriation bill. It appropriates about $800,000; $2,000,000 less than the estimates of the Interior Department. Ten thousand dollars are appropriated for the support of the Modocs.

The Committee on Ways and Means has agreed to report a bill fixing the duty on imported wines at 50 cents per gallon in casks and $2 per case in bottles.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations have decided to recommend to the Senate that they strike out the section of the Army Appropriation bill, as passed by the House, which provides for transferring to the Southern Claims Commission all claims from citizens of loyal States that are now pending in the Quartermaster's and Commissary General's Departments. They agree, however, to the sections which provide for covering into the Treasury the unexpended balances of the appropriations made for these departments in former years, so that while the claims will remain where they are now for adjustment, Congress shall resume control of the matter of providing from time to time for their payment.

The House has granted a pension of $50 per month to the widow of General Canby. Mr. Cobura made an effort to have the pension increased to $100 per month.

The Senate was in Executive session about an hour Friday afternoon on the nomination of William A. Simmons to be Collector of Customs at Boston. Senators Boutwell and Sumner again severally spoke in opposition to the nominee, regarding him as a mere politician, not fitted by education for the high and responsible position, and who was not acceptable to the larger number of intelligent merchants of Boston. Senators Conkling and Carpenter advocated the nomination, speaking in praise of this gentleman, and of his business capacity, and were unable to see in the remarks presented any proper reason for rejection. Finally a vote was taken, and the Senate confirmed the nomination by a vote of 27 against 17, the Democrats present voting in the affirmative.

Generals Sheridan, Hooker and Whipple, of the Thomas Monument Association of the Army of the Cumberland, have concluded to contract for an equestrian statue in bronze of General Geo. H. Thomas, 14 feet high, to be delivered in Washington in three years, the model of the same to be submitted to the Committee in July next for its approval.

The House bill in relation to duties on [illegible], as reported from the Finance Committee, and passed by the Senate, is as follows, having been materially amended by the Finance Committee:

"Be it Enacted, &c., That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby directed to suspend the payment of all duties heretofore paid on imported iron, until further legislation by Congress authorizing the same, or until the final decision of the Supreme Court, except in cases where suits in court have been instituted by the instructions of the Secretary of the Treasury, and the error in punctuation of the clause in relation to [illegible] corrected, and said clause shall read as follows: 'Fruit-plants, tropical and semi-tropical, for the purpose of propagation or cultivation.'"

The bill now goes to the House for concurrence on the Senate amendments.

The Senate Committee on Public Lands agreed to report favorably to Hitchcock's bill allowing any person to a perfect title to his pre-emption entr to file another declaratory statement of ho estead application for another tract. They also agreed to report favorably on Pratt's bill granting several States all unsurveyed overflowed lands; and with sundry amendments, the House bill amendatory of the act to encourage the growth of timber on Western prairies.

The House Committee on Appropriations have instructed their Chairman to report a bill providing for the payments, due to colored soldiers as bounties to supply the deficiency.

Several Ohio ladies residing in Uniontown near Washington, assisted by neighbors, have been instrumental in closing one liquor shop, and are concentrating their efforts to suppress a remaining one in the village.

A bill is being proposed and will be introduced in Congress shortly to allow the duties on importations in American built vessels to be paid in legal tender rates; gold payments as at present required on importations in foreign built ships. This distinction, it is claimed, will be a patent one in the interest of the revival of American commerce, the general importing trade possibly writing in favor of American shipbuilding, preferring on account of the payment of duties in legal tender notes to import their goods in American instead of foreign bottoms.

The Ways and Means Committee agree to favorably report a bill authorizing the continuance in use of the internal revenue special stamp tax after a change is firm.

Senator Chandler gave a very elegant entertainment Saturday night in honor of Chief Justice Waite. Among those present were President Grant, the members of the Cabinet, Senators, and a large number of persons distinguished in political and social life in Washington.

The published statement that the Senate Committee on a transportation route to the seaboard had agreed to report that a though Congress has Constitutional power to regulate the railroad tariffs, that it is not now expedient to exercise that power, is pronounced by the chairman, Senator Windom, to be wholly unauthorized. He states that the Committee has come to no such conclusion.

The Secretary of the Treasury has directed the Assistant Treasurer at New York to sell $3,000,000 of gold for the month of March, as follows: On the first and second Thursday's, each $1,000 000, and on the second and fourth Thursday's each $500,000.

THE EAST.

Pemmick, the only member of the Pennsylvania legislature implicated in the blackmailing bank swindle, has resigned, the election of a new member is to be ordered.

Ex-District Attorney of Brooklyn, deposed from office by Governor Dix, has addressed a communication to the Governor to show that his removal was not for any cause so much as for personal and political reasons, to say he will go before the people for re election next fall to see if the Governor is right when he says that he (Britton) seems to have forfeited all claims to confidence of his fellow citizens.

Revs. Drs. Storrs and Buddington and Rev. Mr. Beecher, failing to agree on the polity and discipline of the Congregational Church, a conference has been called to include such churches with such eminent ministers as may fully represent the wise and ripe judgment of the Congregational churches.

The boot blacks and newsboys have a Grand Duke theatre in the basement in Baxter street, and recently have been giving performances for the benefit of the poor of the neighborhood, realizing over fifty dollars from the theatre. There is now demanded five hundred dollars by the society for the reformation of the juvenile delinquents, the sum which the law gives to the society as a fine for public performance without license.

Mackay, who gave testimony before the Governing Committee of the Stock Exchange, relative to the forged documents of the Western Union and Toledo, Wabash & Western Companies, has been arrested.

A police spy reports the number of New York Communists at three hundred, and says that the German and Irish organizations are about making arrangements to unite with the French. At a recent meeting the Chairman said: It is not only work we want, it is also liberty and the abolition of high salaries and monopolization. We want the heads of some of the thieves who are now stealing the funds of the city; we want their heads, and we shall have them. We want to make them suffer what we are now suffering. There is no justice in New York City. We will take justice in our own hands and administer it with rifles and bayonets. We have arms already; we will find petroleum and use it as we did in Paris. Our German, American and Irish brothers will help us and we will help them.

The second edition of the Medical Times states that the autopsy of the Siamese Twins was continued Friday last, resulting in some interesting disclosures. The Commission found that the two livers which were supposed to be joined only by blood vessels were really one body, parenchymatous tissue being continuous between them, so that when they were taken from the bodies and placed on the table they formed one mass. The so-called tract of portal continuity is therefore liver tissue. It will be remembered that Chang was said to be possessed of one more pouch than Eng. When the liver was removed, however, an upper hepatic pouch was found also proceeding from Eng, so that the band contained four pouches of peritoneum besides the liver tissue. These disclosures show that any attempt during life to separate the twins would in all probability have proved fatal.

A great public demonstration by the Catholics of Jersey City was held Thursday evening at St. Michael's Church. Three hundred people were present. The President of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America, the Very Rev. Dean Byrne, of Trenton, made a most emphatic speech, urging the Catholic citizens to arise immediately and do battle against the great public foe of American liberty and of the Christian religion. They owed it to show how they could crush out the great evil now striking terror into the heart of every American patriot and Christian man. He called upon them to take the religious abstinence pledge, as Archbishop Manning had and as bishops and priests were doing in his country. A large crowd rose and then knelt in front of the altar and took the pledge.

The Boston Journal says on the Simmon's confirmation: "The answer comes to us from Washington that we must have Butler and Butler men, whether we want them or not. The Republican party of Massachusetts will not stand the evil disgrace sought to be intentionally inflicted on us at Washington."

The Daily Advertiser says: "This is an invasion of our rights for which no precedent will be found in the political history of this country; an outrage which cannot be many times repeated without destroying not only the political party which tolerates it, but the harmony of the Nation, as surely."

The Massachusetts Senate has passed the Ten hour bill to engrossment by a vote of 18 to 14. It was a no provision for the hours of labor of men, but provides that women and children under 18 shall not be employed in establishments for the manufacture of textile fabrics, threads, yarns and worsted, more than 60 hours a week, or an average of 10 hours a day. Each violation is punishable by a fine of $50.

Judge Pratt, of New York, on Saturday morning granted a warrant for the arrest of Benaventura Baez, ex-President of Santo Domingo, on application of David Hatch, a wealthy resident of Connecticut. He brings action against Baez, charging the President with conspiracy against his liberty, life and wealth. It seems Hatch acquired possession of an immense salt mine in Santo Domingo from the Spanish authorities. Hatch was suddenly arrested and charged with being in sympathy with the Cabral faction; he was sent to prison, kept there five moths, brought before a drum-head court-martial, summarily tried and sentenced to death. He was then pardoned by Baez and his mine confiscated. The complaint of the plaintiff recites a story of frightful corruption, fraud and villainy. Bail fixed at $25 000.

A party of fourteen Spaniards who had escaped from conscription in Cuba, have arrived in New York. They had volunteered to go to the front, receiving a bounty of $700 each, but not liking the prospect of war, they deserted, and by the practice of strategy and bribery succeeded in getting on board a fruit vessel about to sail.

THE WEST.

The new State Lunatic Asylum at Athens, O., was formally opened on the 26th. Over 200 inmates were received from other asylums.

U. S. District Attorney Peck has filed bills in the U. S. Circuit Court against the Leavenworth, Lawrence & Galveston and Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroads, for the purpose of testing their title to the Osage ceded lands. It is expected the suits will be tried at the next term of the Court, and this much vexed question finally settled.

At Kalamazoo, Mich., on the 27th, a meeting of the officers of the State Grange was held at Battle Creek for the exemplification of the work revised and amended at St. Louis recently; also, a meeting of the Executive Committee; then a mass meeting of the Grangers of that vicinity, addressed by Messrs. Brown, Childs, Duncan and others.

Vasquez and his gang of murderers and robbers are still raiding through the southern counties of California. On the 25th they robbed the Los Angeles stage, and got $200 and eight horses. One man resisted, and shot at Vasquez, but missed him. Vasquez returned the fire, shooting him through the legs, and then told him his name and granted him the mercy of his life. The banditti traveled southerly after the robbery.

The Convention of Locomotive Engineers, in session in Cleveland, adjourned sine die Saturday evening. It is authoritatively stated that a demand will be made upon all Railroad Companies that have made reductions in the wages of their engineers to restore them to their former figure, and if this is not complied with a strike will be ordered. It was also decided that in case of a necessity arising for a strike on any of the through lines, it should become general.

A very prominent Eastern Railway official telegraphed on Saturday to a leading Railway manager of Cleveland that John Fehrenbach, President of the Machinists' and Blacksmiths' National Union, has for some weeks been trying to organize a strike of the machinists and other day laborers. He represents that the men on his and other Western Railways, and upon the Pennsylvania and Erie lines, are ready for the signal, and asks would not the law term him a conspirator.

Dispatches received from Upper Lake ports indicate an unusual early opening of navigation at Marquette and White Fish Point. The ice is 14 to 12 inches thick in the harbors, but there is very little outside. The oldest inhabitant there expects an early break up.

The work on the Sault Canal is being pushed forward with all possible energy. It is expected that the rock will all be out in three weeks, after which the bottom of the Canal will be cleaned and the dam taken out.

The ice in Mackinaw Straits is lighter than for many years before, being only 10 inches thick. The warm weather will probably clear the Straits. Very little ice in Lake Huron, and that very thin.

The California Assembly has adopted a resolution to appoint a committee of five to ascertain if the Central Pacific Railroad has complied with the condition of the act by which the State guaranteed the interest on one and-a-half millions of its bonds. It is claimed the company has utterly failed to comply, except in one instance. The committee is not yet designated.

Hon. Morgan Bates, Lieutenant-Governor of Michigan, died at Traverse City Monday morning.

THE SOUTH.

A dispatch from Massneck Depot, North Carolina, says the shooting of Steve Lowry, the last of the Scuffletown outlaws, causes great rejoicing in Robison county, and yesterday large numbers of people flocked into Lumberton, where the body lay. Lowry, when shot, carried a rifle, three pistols and a knife. The rewards offered for his body amount to over six thousand dollars, all of which will be paid to the three young men who did the shooting.

R. C. DeLarge, colored, ex-member of Congress from South Carolina, died in Charleston, South Carolina, on Sunday last. He took a prominent part in the politics of the city and State after the close of the war, figured as a member of the reconstruction convention, was also appointed a magistrate, and afterwards a trial justice, which he held at the time of his death.

The Galveston census, just completed, shows 34,850 inhabitants, not including floating population, an increase of over 20,000 in three years.

A News San Antonio special says it is now fully ascertained that 11 Indians in one squad were killed in a recent fight on the double fork of the Brazos. Lieut. Turner of the Tenth Cavalry narrowly escaped death; he had a cartridge in his pocket split by an arrow.

FOREIGN.

Great Britain.

Sir Bartle Frere, at a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, stated that after a conference with Mr. Kerk, he had come to the conclusion that the report of Dr. Livingstone's death was true. The Queen, at the recommendation of Gladstone, has granted a pension of $1,000 per annum to the children of Dr. Livingstone.

A correspondent in British India writes to a London paper as follows of the famine there: The scarcity spreads over a wide tract along the foot of the Himalayas, bounding Nefacci and stretching from Oude to near Daryeallina districts with large population and far away from a railroad and other means of communication. The Coolies and laborers feel pinched the most owing to the total suspension of work in rice fields.

The Government was engaged prior to the outbreak of distress in the construction of the Iwigatina canals and the Northern Bengal R. R. and the embankment of Gundnuck River. In the first named, 32,000 laborers were employed, their wages were paid and the money exchanged for food at the Government stores. Sir George Campbell says he does not know if there will be any famine at all, and Lord Northbrook says the Government has arranges for sufficient food till May with large reserves to meet contingencies. The British India correspondent writes that what he himself has seen neither the Government nor the people can tell at present the actual condition, nor what it may be in the future.

The War Office has received no report of the battle said to have occurred between Sir Garnet Wolsely's army and the Ashantees, but an unofficial, though circumstantial dispatch, has reached the Admiralty office that a battle was fought at Alroomboo, January 31st, not at Coomassie, as reported. Among the killed are Major Baird and Captain Buckle. The Globe says that if this news be true, a great disaster has befallen the British arms, and the only course left to Sir Garnet Wolsley is to effect a safe retreat to the coast.

A special to the Standard says the Ashantees entirely surrounded the British army, but were eventually driven off with great loss. The principal war chief of the Ashantees was killed. The King has taken command of his army in person, and it was expected that he would renew the attack February 5th was the date decided upon for the storming of Coomassie by General Wolseley's forces.

At London, Feb. 26th, the following dispatch was received at the War Office, and published by the newspapers in extras at noon:

COOMASSI, Feb. 26.—We reached here yesterday, after five days' hard fighting. The troops behaved admirably. Our casualties are under 300. The King is in the neighborhood of the town, and promises to visit me to-day and sign the treaty of peace. We hope to start on our return to the coast to-morrow. The wounded are recovering, and the health of the remainder of the army is good.

[Signed] WOLSELEY.

In the race to take place March 28th, on the Thames, between the Oxford and Cambridge crews, the betting is two to one in favor of Cambridge.

Professor Huxley was installed on the 27th as Rector of the University of Aberdeen.

The company which issued proposals for laying a light telegraph cable between England and America have abandoned the enterprise.

At London, Feb. 28th, the trial of the Tichborne claimant, on the charge of perjury, which has lasted one hundred and eighty days, has resulted in his conviction on all the charges, and he was sentenced to fourteen years penal servitude. The jury was out only a short time. There is great excitement over the verdict, and the papers have issued extras.

After the verdict was announced the Tichbourne claimant expressed a desire to address the Court, but the Judge refused permission and proceeded to pass sentence. The claimant maintained his usual composure. When the sentence was pronounced he shook hands with Dr. Kenealy, his council, and was then taken from the Court-room by a seldom used exit, and placed in a private carriage and rapidly driven to Newgate, much to the disappointment of an immense, though orderly crowd, which gathered outside to see him pass. It is asserted that Dr. Kenealy, counsel for the Tichborne claimant, will move for a new trial on the ground that the jury was misdirected by the Chief Justice in his summing up.

Dr. Kenealey, it is stated, will appeal to the House of Lords, should he fail in the Courts, to get a new trial for the Tichborne claimant. The journals approve the verdict.

Rumors are current that the Ashantee expeditionary force is in great peril.

A dispatch received at the Indian office states that over a million people are starving to death in the famine stricken districts of India.

Fifteen of the crew of the ship Grace Darling, wrecked on the Scotch coast in a recent gale, were washed from the rigging and drowned. Four life guardsmen, going to their assistance, lost their lives by the swamping of their boat.

France.

A Paris letter says the *soidisant* Prince Ostanick was condemned to the extreme penalty allowed by law, five years' imprisonment and 40,000 francs fine, on the charge of swindling the relations of Ostanick. His transactions with the press are of a remarkable character. By paying a round sum he got an article in the *Journal des Debats*, on agriculture in the East. Immediately afterward he was waited upon by some literary agents, who wanted his admirable work widely circulated, and after getting the article into a few journals, they handed in a bill of 7,094 francs for personal notices. The bills were sent to Ostanick at 20 cents per line. M. Poogenfohl, editor of the *Correspondence Universelle*, wanted to borrow 10,000 at the moment of the arrest, the Prince stopping further payments. Virginault, editor of Thie's official organ, *Bien Publise*, stated that he had need of money and wanted 10,000 francs from Ostanick; the sum of 3,000 francs was given and he would have had the rest if he had succeeded in getting Ostanick made a Chevalier of the Legion d'Honneur. He had tried to do so, but Thiers had not agreed. Louis Albach, editor in chief of the *Cloche*, borrowed 10,000 francs, and M. Barral, who got Ostanick into the Agricultural Society as successor of Baron Leibig, was also down for considerable sums. Ostanick was arrested on complaint of a jeweler of Brunswick who sold him diamonds, and he said to the jeweler in Court: "I took them because you pressed me so hard to do so, and you sold me diamonds for 10,000 francs, which experts estimate at only 2,000. You charged me 50,000 francs for jewels on which I could not realize 1,000.

A short time ago Marshal MacMahon visited the Vendome Column, and urged the contractor to hurry it up as rapidly as possible. The eighth spiral is being placed, and the contractor promised the Marshal that the monument should be entirely completed by the 1st of June.

A Paris letter says the Governor of Paris has asked permission of the Assembly to prosecute M. Melville Blancourt, Deputy for Guadaloupe, for participation in the acts of the Commune. Melvil Blancourt is the only negro in the Chamber, and sits upon the extreme left, among the extreme Radicals. He was Deputy Minister of War under Cluseret. The Assembly had taken no action, but it was probable that Blancourt would fly to England.

Spain.

Gen. Sickles took leave of President Serrano on the 24th.

At Bayonne, March 2, the Carlist Junta have a dispatch stating that Bilboa has surrendered to Don Carlos, and that one church, several banks, and seventeen private houses, were destroyed by the bombardment.

Germany.

M. Gucber and six other delegates to the Reichstag from Alsace and Lotraine, have published a manifesto repudiating Bishop Raess' acknowledgement of the Frankfort treaty.

Africa.

Dr. Livingstone's remains were expected to reach Zanzibar on the 20th inst. The Cameron Expedition will proceed to Ujiji, to obtain possession of the documents and property left by the Doctor.

Cuba.

The Gaceta published an order requiring house owners and heads of families to give to the authorities the names of all persons, white or black, residing in their premises who are liable to military duty. Failure to report the names within a specified time is punishable by a fine, and parties making inaccurate reports will be tried by court martial. This order has been issued because all other attempts to procure accurate lists for conscription have failed.

A Dry Tortugas dispatch states that a steamer has arrived from Havana which reports a great excitement in that city, owing to an alleged departure from Baltimore of the steamer Edgar Stuart on a filibustering expedition and that the Spanish naval officers had determined to sink her with all on board, if found near the Cuban coast.

Japan.

The Insurgents advanced to the walls of Nagaski, and there has been some fighting, with what result is unknown. The foreign residents are safe, under the protection of their Consuls and the men-of-war in the harbor.

Affairs in the District of Columbia.

Governer Shepherd has replied to the interrogatories propounded by the Committee to investigate the affairs of the District of Columbia. The papers include the original contract made by the Board of Public Works, number 1,032, together with the original measurements and vouchers numbering 10,537. In answer to the question as to the indebtedness of the old corporations of Washington and Georgetown and levy court when the new government went into effect, it is stated at $5,520,026. The bonded debt of the District of Columbia on January 1st, 1874, was $5,527,850. The present assessed value of property is now $95,443,072, as against $78,897,454 in 1871.

The exhibit of the Auditor shows the cost of the work done under contract with the Board of Public Works was less than five per cent. in excess of estimated cost. In reply to the question, what amount, if any, does the District Government estimate ought to be paid by the United States for improvements of public property made by the District Government? the answer is that the Board of Public Works, in their report to the President, dated the 1st of November last, estimated such indebtedness and gave the aggregate at $4,300,370. This, however, is a small portion of the sum equitably due by the Government on account of expenditures made by our citizens in their corporate capacity for improvements of streets and avenues of the city, and roads and thoroughfares of other parts of the District. The streets and avenues are held in fee simple by the General Government according to the decision of the Supreme Court. Acting under such construction, the United States have in one case gained 397,380 square feet by inclosing streets in the vicinity of the Capitol, which are worth, according to the appraisement of adjoining property, $576,050. The general government has also retained the ground reclaimed by filling up the canal, worth, at the valuation of adjoining property, $7,500,000.

It appears from the statement of the Register that from 1802 to 1871, when the new government went into operation, that $9 199,432 had been expended by citizens under the old corporation laws for public improvements. The expenditures of the Board of Works since the creation of a District Government have been—on streets and avenues, $1,562,685; total expenditures by citizens since 1802, $24,762,117; total amount expended by the United States in the same period, on streets and avenues, $4,476,706; showing an excess of expenditures by citizens over the Government, on the improvement of streets and avenues and roads, nine-tenths of which are used absolutely by the Government, of $20,285 411. It is shown that the real estate held by the United States in the District of Columbia, fully equals, if it does not exceed in value, that owned by citizens. It is suggested that were a plan adopted by which the Government would reimburse to the District the amount of outstanding indebtedness of the United States on account of the improvements, and annually thereafter contribute a just portion towards current expenses, as well as the extinguishment of the local debt, such arrangement would be in accordance with strict equality and compare favorably with the liberality exhibited by other Governments in their capital cities.

Under acts of Congress and the Legislative Assembly, $6,150,232 worth of property belonging to churches, &c., is exempted from taxation. The only aid granted by Congress in defraying the current expenses of the District is the annual appropriation toward the support of the police, and it is hoped they will adopt a similar course toward the schools, fire department, and the lighting of streets.

It is suggested by the Governor that authority be given for funding the outstanding bonds in one consolidated loan, carrying a fair rate of interest, and that the Committee personally visit and inspect the various District offices and improvements, in order that they may see for themselves the operation of the one and the extent and value of the other.

The Governor stated that he had effected negotiations for a loan based upon tax lien certificates sufficient to pay the salaries of school teachers and the members of the Police and Fire Departments, but owing to grave and unfounded imputations of memorialists affecting the District Government, the realization of the loan was deferred. The misrepresentations of a few designing persons have, the Governor says, cost the people of this municipality hundreds of thousands of dollars, and much suffering.

Referring to the sewer certificates, the Governor enclosed an opinion of Messrs. Cushing and Black, to show their legality, and as being in the nature of assessment certificates, and therefore forming no part of the indebtedness of the District Government.

Reference is made to the statement in the Assessor's report that humbler taxpayers have met their assessments uncomplainingly, and paid up the entire amount.

The report of the Treasurer of the Board of Public Works shows that they received to the 28th of February $15,256,232, and expended $14,603,052. The assets of the Board are stated at $3,760,273, and the total liabilities, $4,553,958. This is exclusive of the amount due by the United States Government for improvements on their property. The total amount of certificates of settlement issued is $19,546,604.

The Indians.

Information received from Laramie says it is reported there that the Cheyennes are debating whether to stay on the reservation or go south and keep out of trouble. It is thought that they will not coalesce with the hostile tribes. Many Indians continue to go north for the purpose of joining the war parties. Crazy Horse's band has declared for war. The employes at the agencies of Red Cloud and Whetstone are apprehensive of trouble. It is considered doubtful whether the Ogallalla young men will stand by the Agencies. Their hostile action toward those who have declared for peace, is not considered favorable. However, no trouble is at all probable with the Indians south of Fort Laramie. If they commit any depredations, they will be in Dakotah, Northern Wyoming and Montana.

A Galveston special says a private letter from Fort Clark, the 20th, says: "The expedition that leaves there to-morrow has been fitted out for a month. Four companies have already started and three are following, including 50 Seminole and Tonkawana scouts. The exact destination is unknown, but as the Indians are quitting Mexico in formidable numbers, and gathering on the Pecos, it is thought the movement will be upon villages some 300 miles from here. The reinforcements will likely follow to McKenzie's trail, and see but little of what is going on. The pack trains carry 100 days' rations.

A dispatch from Fort Gully, Dakota Territory, states that the Unkapapas Indians made a raid on some herders near Grand River Agency on the 22d inst., killing Private Collins, of the 17th Infantry, and stealing several horses. They were followed in the direction of Standing Rock by a party of soldiers, but the trail was lost. The same dispatch states that the Indians intend to concentrate at the foot of the Black Hills by the first of April, to prepare for a long and general war upon the whites during the summer.

Settlers in Loui Valley, Nebraska, apply to General Ord for protection against the Indians, who are becoming very troublesome, otherwise they will be compelled to leave their homes—some having already left. Further advices from the Red Cloud agency show that the number of heretofore reported "good" Indians is growing less day by day, and that the search for bad ones by troops leaving Fort Laramie early next week will be successful.

The Secretary of the Interior has written a letter to the Secretary of War in relation to the hostile Sioux Indians, in which he says that the purpose of the Interior Department in asking for troops at the Red Cloud and Spotted Tail agencies, was to prevent and not to cause hostilities, and that it was supposed these troops might be needed as a protecting and not aggressive force.

An official telegram received at Omaha from Fort Laramie says the condition of Indian affairs is unsettled and unsatisfactory. At the Agencies the good Indians seem to have been corrupted and are leaving for the north to join the hostile bands. It is reported that the beef contractor has stopped his supply of beef being afraid to drive cattle through the reservation. There seems to be no doubt but that the column of troops now at Fort Laramie will enter the reservation from that point, and it is thought they will meet with some opposition. No trouble with the Indians is at all probable south of the Platte, in Wyoming Territory. Nebraska is too far removed to be thought of in connection with the Indians. There is not one in the State but what is peaceable.

FORTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

Monday, February 23, having been generally observed as Washington's birthday, Congress held no session on that day, but each House adjourned over till the following Tuesday.

On Tuesday, Feb. 24th, the Senate resumed the consideration of the bill for the purpose of equalizing the currency, the pending question being upon the motion of Mr. Buckingham to recommit the bill, with instructions to report in favor of increasing the volume of currency to $44,000,000, such instruction having been agreed to the preceding Friday. The floor being held by Senator Schurz, that gentleman proceeded to make a lengthy speech against further inflation of the currency, arguing that there was now a plentiful supply of currency, and that the further issue of irredeemable paper would break down the credit of the nation. He was replied to briefly by Senator Morton, who argued that specie payments could not be maintained now, as we have about $1,300,000,000 in Europe—900,000,000 in Government bonds and other securities. The interest on these bonds had to be paid in gold, thus draining the country of $60,000,000 or $70,000,000 every year. Under the present currency the country had prospered more than ever before, and the system would admit of an expansion of currency whenever necessary.

The House, on the same day, again took up and discussed the bill to provide for free distribution of public documents, seeds, etc., by mail. No action. A resolution was adopted instructed the Committee on Indian Affairs to investigate the status of the Indians of the United States and Territories, as to their citizenship under the Constitution, and touching their titles to property, and as to other rights and privileges, in view of past treaties, statutes and laws, and Executive orders concerning them.

On the 25th the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill to provide for the appointment of a commission on the subject of the alcoholic liquor traffic, but it was passed without action. At the expiration of the morning hour, the consideration of the currency equalization bill was taken up, the Buckingham amendment to recommit being still pending. Without reaching any definite result the Senate went into Executive session, and soon afterward adjourned.

The House, on the 25th, after discussion and action upon some minor bills, again took up the franking bill, and speeches were made by Cobb (Kansas) in favor of, and Butler (Massachusetts) against the bill. The latter took strong grounds against the extension of any further privileges to the newspapers, which he abused soundly. At the conclusion of this speech the vote on the main question was ordered, by a vote of 126 to 117, and the bill went over.

The Senate began their Friday's session by refusing to take up the Centennial bill making appropriation for the coming centennial of 1876. The Naval appropriation bill was then taken up and passed, the amendments of the Committee having been concurred in. The bill reduces the appropriations for drawing and engraving charts from $40,000 to $30,000; provides for three assistant observers at the Naval Observatory instead of two, and appropriates $15,000 for preparing and publishing the nautical almanac instead of $10,000 and increases the appropriation for the equipment of vessels from $1,100,000 to $1,250,000; that for provisions for officers, seamen and marines is increased from $1,300,000 to $1,352,000; that for repairs and preservation of boilers and machinery is increased from $1,800,000 to $1,860,000, and contingent expenses of the Naval Academy are fixed at $46,000, instead of $30,000. The bill also provides that the office of Commandant of the Marine Corps, having rank of Brigadier General of the army, shall continue until a vacancy shall occur in the same, and no longer, and immediately thereupon all laws and parts of laws creating said office shall become inoperative and be repealed. It provides further that hereafter the commandant of that corps shall have the rank and pay of colonel, and be appointed by selection made by the President from the officers of said corps. $30,000 are appropriated for the contingent expenses of the Marine Corps, instead of $15,000. The bill now goes back to the House for that body to concur in the Senate's amendment. The centennial bill was made the order for Friday after the morning hour, and the Senate shortly after went into executive session.

The House, on Thursday, took up the franking bill, and speeches were made in its favor by Messrs. Danford, Durrell, Conger, Burkard, Randal and others. A motion to lay the bill on the table was made and lost, and the bill was then put upon its passage and lost by a vote of 129 yeas to 131 nays. A motion to reconsider was made and afterwards withdrawn.

The Senate, on the 26th, agreed to Morrill's amendment to the bill appointing a Commission to inquire into the liquor traffic. The amendment provides for the appropriation of $10,000 to pay the expenses of the Commission. The Centennial bill was next taken up. Senator Sumner offered a substitute for the House bill providing that the celebration of the 100th anniversary of American independence shall be national in its character; that the arrangement shall be left in the hands of the original Commission, and shall be carried out to conform to the provisions of the act of Congress; and that no money shall be appropriated from the National Treasury on account of the celebration. The amendment was advocated by Senator Sumner, and opposed by Senator Scott. Senator West submitted an amendment to the pending army appropriation bill. Senator Carpenter gave notice that on Monday he would call up his bill ensuring a new election in Louisiana.

The House on the same day, went into a Committee of the Whole on the private calendar, Mr. Orth in the chair. The Committee passed a number of private bills, which were passed. Mr. Kiner gave notice that he would on Monday to-morrow call up a bill and move its passage to allow the free circulation of foreign newspapers. Mr. Conger moved a motion to reconsider the vote on the franking bill, the same to be called by senator

The Markets.

Produce Markets.

NEW YORK, March 2.—Cotton is dull; 16c for middling uplands. Flour is more active and a shade firmer; receipts 18,000 bbls; sales 10,000 bbls; $5 48@6 80 for extra state; $6 40@7 75 for round hoop Ohio. Wheat is a better and in fair demand; receipts 159,000 bu; sales 51,000 bu at 148@149 for No 2 Chicago; 151c for No 2 Milwaukee. Rye quiet. Corn quiet and firm; receipts 30,000 bu; sales 20,000 bu at 77@78c for new western mixed afloat. Barley is dull and nominal. Oats is a shade firmer; receipts 29,000 bu; sales 25,000 bu at 61@62c for mixed western; 62@63c for white. Pork heavy at $15 62½ for new mess. Cut Meats unchanged. Beef unchanged. Lard firm; 9½@9 3-16c for steam and 9¾c for kettle. Whiskey 96½c. Sugar steady. Petroleum—13c for crude and 19½c for refined.

TOLEDO, TUESDAY MORNING, March 2.—Flour—The market, in sympathy with Wheat, is dull and a shade lower. Fine, $3 75@4 12; Superfine, $4 25@4 50; Extra, $5 00@5 25; Double Extra and Fancy, $5 50@6 00; Buckeye at, $5 50; Rye, $5@5 50. Wheat—The market, though 1@3c off in price as compared with last week, exhibits a better feeling, with Amber steady at 147c spot and seller March and 151c seller April; Extra White Michigan 156c, No. 1 White Michigan 156c, and No. 2 White Michigan 142@143c. In White Wabash Wheat, No. 2 was nominally 159@160c, and No. 3 146@147c. There is but a limited demand for red winter, with No 1 Wabash 151c; No 2 Wabash 141c spot and 143c seller April; No. 3 Red was for sale at 129c, without takers; Rejected Red was in request, but as the grain was not offered for sale, we did not hear a price mentioned in connection with it; Spring Wheat sold at 125c for No. 2 and 90c for rejected. Corn—The market is very quiet, with High mixed 61¾c spot, 62½c seller April, and 63¾c seller May; old Corn, 61@65c; Low-mixed Corn, little doing at 60½@61c for regular and 62½@63c for old; No Grade Corn, 58c for regular; Damaged Corn was for sale at 58c for old, without takers; White Corn sold at 61½c for old; regular was on the market at 60c, without takers; Yellow Corn was for sale at the same prices, without inquiry. Oats—The market is almost without animation, with No. 1 held at 51c; No. 2 at 47c and Michigan at 47½c, without purchasers. Seeds—Very quiet at $5 20@$5 30 for Medium Clover and $9 00 for Mammoth; Timothy, $3 25; Flax Seed, $2 00. Provisions—Mess Pork, $15 50 for heavy and $15 00 for light; mess and cuts and rumps. Hams—12c for pickled and 13½c for smoked, per lb. Beef—$9 00@$10 00 for prime to heavy mess. Lard 8¼@8c for prime in kegs and bbls. Tallow—5c for mutton and 6¾c for beef. Butter—35@35c for fresh roll. Eggs, 18c per doz. Potatoes, 105c for common and mixed, 110c for medium grades, and 120c for Peach Blows. Fruits—10½@11c for dried apples; 25c for peeled Peaches per lb; $3 00@$3 50 for Green Apples, and $12 for Cranberries, per bbl. Mill Feed—$18 00@19 00 for Bran, $19 00@$21 00 for Shorts and $24@25 for fine Middlings, per ton. Maple Sugar, 13@15c. Honey, 25c. Beans, 190@210c for small and 160@190c for large white per bu; Peas $125 per bu. Poultry, 8@9c for chickens and lic for turkeys dressed, per lb. Lumber—Waln